



1211 S. Western, Suite 203  
Chicago, IL 60608

# THE NORTH LAWNDALE COMMUNITY NEWS

**FREE**

Since 1999, More News, More of Your Issues, and More of Your Community Voices. "News that Improves Your Lives"

Serving North Lawndale, East & West Garfield, Austin, Pilsen, Humbolt Park, Near Westside & South Lawndale

PUBLISHER : STRATEGIC HUMAN SERVICES

VOLUME NO. 8 - ISSUE NO. 5

ISSN 1548-6087

March 1- March 14, 2006

PROVIDING INFORMATION ON RESOURCES AND EVENTS THAT IMPROVE THE LIFESTYLE OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

## NAACP HOSTS CANDIDATES FORUM ON THE WEST SIDE

Richard Muhammad



Current State Representative of the 8th District, Calvin Giles and challenger LaShawn K. Ford vie for the position in the upcoming election in the March 21st primary. The audiences listened in as candidates stated their qualifications and answered questions.

Contenders for some of the highest offices in the state turned out for a recent candidates' forum hosted by the Chicago West Side Branch NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People). The event was co-sponsored by the *North Lawndale Community News*, the *Austin Weekly News* and the *Windy City Word*.

In the face of frigid Saturday morning temperatures, the candidates stepped up to the mike at the Columbus Park

Refectory, offering a two-minute summary of their credentials and visions before answering questions from the audience and community media. Offices represented ran the gamut from local judgeships, to state legislators, Cook County sheriff and board president, to governor and representative of the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

"What we have to do is remind people that voting is so important that people laid their life down (for the right to vote). We should at least pick up the baton and at least go to the polls," said Vera Davis, the Chicago West Side NAACP president.

"Bringing candidates to the community offers a chance to hear

See page NAACP 13

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE



**BLACKSMITH  
BOOKS OPEN FOR  
BUSINESS**

See Page 7

## MALCOLM X COLLEGE'S NINTH ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP GALA



Dr. Zerrie Campbell, President of Malcolm X College dance to sounds of Gentlemen of Leisure Band with Scholarship Gala guest

The Malcolm X College President's Scholarship Gala 2006 theme was "A salute to the big easy Malcolm X College style". President Zerrie D. Campbell pulled out all the stops this year and for one night the college became a New Orleans cabaret celebrating Mardi Gras. The cafe was resplendent in dazzling iridescent colors and delicious Cajun Style food as MXC supporters in colorful costumes arrived for the night's entertainment.

The best costume honors went to Reproduction Graphics Director William Stewart as "King of the

Mardi Gras" and professor of pharmacology Ron Grimmert coming in a close second as "Zorro".

MXC Distinguished Alumni Henry English, President of the Black United Fund of Illinois was seen enjoying the Najwa Dance Troop's exciting dance presentation in the Hayden auditorium. President Dr. Clyde El-Amin, Kennedy-King College joined representatives from Olive Harvey, Wright, and Harold Washington colleges. A high point of the evening was the arrival of

See Gala page 3



**BROTHER'S  
BARBER AND  
BEAUTY SALON  
MARCH SMALL  
BUSINESS OF THE  
MONTH**

See Page 9

## STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS UNITE TO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS AT LITTLE VILLAGE/LAWNDALE HIGH SCHOOL

Wilbert Bledsoe



Students, teachers, parents and concerned community residents meet in Library of new Little Village/Lawndale High School.

Students, teachers and parents vowed to work together to create a hospitable atmosphere for African-American and Hispanic students attending Little Village/Lawndale High School. This show of solidarity was in response to a referendum placed on ballots in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ward by State Senator Martin Sandoval (12th-District) that called for a redrawing of attendance boundaries for the school.

The school's present boundary is west of Pulaski Rd to Kenton, north to 14<sup>th</sup> St and south to Pershing Rd. Some Little Village parents argue that the boundary should be redrawn to include Little Village students who live east of Pulaski Rd.

The referendum reads as follows: "Should the Chicago Public Schools redraw the attendance boundaries for the Little Village/Lawndale High School Campus so that only students from the surrounding community could attend."

Chicago Public Schools is mandated by a federal consent decree to desegregate schools to enroll at least 30 percent of another racial group, thus the school had to open with African-American students from North Lawndale and Hispanic students from Little Village.

"I was very concerned about how the referendum was marketed, pitting one group of people against another," said North Lawndale

See Village page 6

### ALSO INSIDE

**NEW COLUMN  
In the Minds of  
Thousands with  
Myleson Collins - Page 3**

**Chicago Area Project  
and Local Officials  
Kick-Off All Kids  
Pre-Registration  
Partnership - Page 4**

**Congratulations  
Shani Davis Olympic  
Speedskating  
Champion - Page 12**

Visit us on our website at [www.nlc.org](http://www.nlc.org) for more articles, information, photos and opportunities.

# THE NORTH LAWDALE COMMUNITY NEWS

The North Lawndale Community News is published bi-weekly by Strategic Human Services. Our purpose is to help inform our community on resources, events, and issues relevant to us and our neighboring communities. Our community includes those who live, work, worship in, and/or care about North Lawndale. Our focus is on positive, productive solutions, that will improve the lifestyle of our community members.

### Board of Directors

- Muhammed Shakur, *Vice-Chairman*
- Carolyn Lewis, *Director*
- Bruce Miller, *Treasurer*
- Vivian Lewis, *Director*
- Betty Mason, *Director*
- Frank Bass, *Director*
- Nicole Cabel-Pope, *Director*
- Reginald Jones, *Director*
- Creative Scott, *Director*
- Leroy Pacheco, *Director*
- Brent Michelle, *Director*

Founding Board of Director: Larry Leonard

### Advisory Board:

- Cong. Danny K. Davis, Rev. Randall Harris, Fred Mitchell
- Laura Washington, Susan Munro, Marta Foster, Margaret Davis

### Consulting Editors and Writers:

Joe Ann Bradley, Constanza Williams, Wilbert Cook, Bill Goosby, Fred Mitchell, Dr. Shemuel Israel, Tamiko Bowie-Ervin, Elia Qasim, Harris, Danita Bowie, Marquita Ware, C. L. Hunter, Warren Polk, David Schultz, Wilbert Bledsoe, Towanda Abbott, Reggie Lewis, Angelic Jones, Shelton Love, Jeffery Leving, JustNita, Nofiyah Israel, Nedra Logan-Dye, Mary Moran, John M. Hagedorn, Richard Townsell, Clemolyn (Pennie) Brinson, Paul Stewart, Deloris McCain, Barron Willard, Priscilla Lucas, Todd Thomas, Renita Williams, Kabuika Kamunga, Sophia Karalexis, X'ernona Woods, Henry Hardee, Willie Paige, Jr.

Founding Publisher & CEO: Isaac Lewis, Jr.

Production/Layout Coordinator: Marquita Ware

IT (Information Technology) Manager: Ronnie Allen

Managing Editor: Wilbert Bledsoe

Business Manager: Brooke Robert Stoddard

Website Consultant: Lamont Simmons

Photography: Community members and writers

Marketing Consultant: Dr. Shemuel Israel

Staff Accountant: Constanza Williams

Advertising Representative: Andre Stokes

Advertising Representative: Betty Meaders

Strategic Door to Door Distribution (Bi-weekly) Racheeka Dent and Community Youth

Circulation: 15,000 copies

Drop Site Distribution: Sybil Mason - Bi-weekly over 250 dropsites, and over 340,685 potential readers throughout North and South Lawndale, East and West Garfield, Humboldt Park, Austin, Pilsen and the Near West Communities.

Mail Subscription Rates: \$15.00 for 6 months. \$25.00 for 1 year \$45.00 for two years

### For Advertisement Rates

and all other inquiries contact us at:

North Lawndale Community News  
1211 South Western Avenue, Suite 203  
Chicago, IL 60608

Phone: 312/492-9090 Fax: 312/492-7162

Website: www.nlcn.org

The North Lawndale Community News is funded by the dedicated work and support of the community, and made possible with grants from The Steans Family Foundation, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Harris Bank Foundation, The Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs through former Governor George H. Ryan and State Representative Arthur L. Turner, The Chicago Community Trust via Lawndale Christian Development Corporation, The Leo S. Guthman Family Fund (Lynne C. Rosenthal), The Albert Pick, Jr. Fund, The Soderquist Family Foundation, Circle of Service Foundation, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), J-labInstitute, AfterSchool Matters, SBC, and contributions from our advertisers and readers. The North Lawndale Community News was started with a grant from the North Lawndale Small Grants Initiative now known as the Small Grants Human Development Corporation.



Circulation Verification Council is a third party agency that audits and verifies our circulation which is currently at 15,000 issues per publication.

**AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE**

**ERIC J. LINDSAY AGENCY**

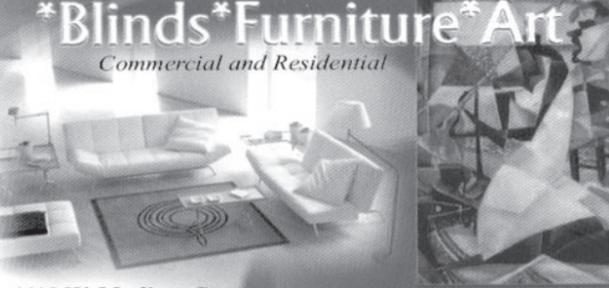
3708 WEST ROOSEVELT ROAD  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60624

Office: 773-638-1700  
Fax: 773-638-1718  
E-Mail: elindsay@amfam.com  
24-Hour Claims Reporting: 800-374-1111




**\*Blinds\*Furniture\*Art**

*Commercial and Residential*



4410 W. Madison Street  
Chicago, IL 60624  
Custom Interior Fashion

3600 W. 16th Street  
Chicago, IL 60623  
Warehouse Direct  
773.287.8000

**L & P LIVERY**



*"We Go Anywhere"*

773-533-0147      773-533-0172  
773-533-0148      773-533-9528

**Attract More CLIENTS or CUSTOMERS! ADVERTISE in the North Lawndale Community News FOR RATES: CALL 312.492.9090**

**Writers' Meetings!!**

**THE NORTH LAWDALE COMMUNITY NEWS**

Where: 1211 S. Western, Suite 203  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Dates: March 16, 2006 & April 20, 2006

*Free Training in Community Journalism!*  
**Everyone is Welcome!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION: CALL 312.492.9090

### Index

To Your Health	Page 4
Commentary/Poetry	Page 5
Education & Employment	Page 6
Spiritual Life	Page 7
Community People	Page 8
Business of the Month	Page 9
Economic Development	Page 10
Entertainment & Sports	Page 12
Current Events & Classifieds	Page 15

**North Lawndale Community News**  
**Winner of the**  
**2005 SBC Beyond the Call Award**

~~~~~

**North Lawndale Community News**  
**Winner of the**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District 2004**  
**Education Champion Award**

Presented By Congressman Danny K. Davis & Residents of the 7th Congressional District

## NLCN 2006 Focus Health, Education & Welfare

The primary focus for SHS/ NCLN during 2006 will be Health, Education, and Welfare. Health is essential to a good life. Education is necessary for the pursuit of happiness especially in an economy driven society. Welfare is unavoidable in showing man's humanity (love) toward man. All year long NLCN will concentrate and focus on more articles related to health, education and our welfare through our newspaper, weblog, and website that serves the Westside of Chicago.

There is a great disparity in the statistics of the health of a majority of our community areas. This announcement of newsprint is too small to go into great detail, but some resources that can help affirm the state of our health can be found in a survey conducted by the Sinai Health System titled Improving Community Health Survey, "The State of Black Health Care" published as a health supplement in a special edition of the Philadelphia Tribune and the Chicago Tribune in November 2005 and "Natural Cures" at www.naturalcures.com. Our articles and links will point to other resources that will go into greater detail because health, education and welfare are their core missions, ours stands as messengers. The natural cures, an interestingly new area to the masses in our society leads to solutions that have been overlooked by mainstream medicine and some corporations maybe because of the love of money or closed minded doubt to even investigate better ways to better health, or not get sick.

Education can reduce and minimize high rates of unemployment and underemployment, produce healthier citizens, and reduce the dependency on traditional welfare. The Westside is changing but not always in favor of the less fortunate who have lived here for years. Throughout the year, we will connect North Lawndale resident with resources in these areas. The North Lawndale Community News will continue to provide news and information on people, issues, and events that are relevant to our readers, as well as touch on the focus for the previous years. Becoming an intelligent people we can also participate and benefit in making our community a model neighborhood. We hope by reading our community newspaper you become or remain inspired to keep moving forward to a better life.

**Make sure you get every Issue**

**Help us to keep this newspaper Alive**

**Subscribe to**

**The North Lawndale Community News**

Complete and Mail this Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

6months \$15     1yr \$25     2yr \$45

Mail to:

**The North Lawndale Community News**  
1211 S. Western - Suite 203  
Chicago, IL 60608

# GRAMMY WINNING RECORDING ARTIST COMMON JOINS STATE EFFORT TO REDUCE AFRICAN-AMERICAN INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Grammy winning recording artist Common joined Illinois Department of Human Services Secretary Carol L. Adams, Ph.D., and health professionals to launch the second phase of Gov. Rod R. Blagojevich's new initiative to reduce the mortality rate among African-American infants.

Last year, the Blagojevich Administration launched the "Closing the Gap on Infant Mortality" to help prevent premature births and sudden infant death syndrome. The initiative targets the

communities of Austin, Englewood, West Englewood and Auburn-Gresham. These communities have the highest rate of pre-term births and SIDS deaths in Chicago. The rate of occurrence in these communities is more than double the state average. African-American infants are three times more likely than white infants to die before reaching one year of age.

"Our goal is to make early and regular prenatal care available to all expecting women in Illinois," said Gov. Blagojevich. "Our Closing the Gap

campaign brings together state and community resources to increase awareness and make a difference in the African-American community."

Ads featuring Common will be posted on 500 CTA buses and trains starting in mid-March on the green and red lines. The ads will urge people to take action and get early and regular prenatal care.

The Illinois Department of Human Services is working with the Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition, SIDS of Illinois, The Illinois Chapter of the March

of Dimes, Chicago Health Connection, Access Community Health Network and the Chicago Department of Public Health to implement this campaign.

In addition to the media campaign, the new initiative will provide training for people from these communities to serve as "peer educators." These people will make presentations to community groups about the problems of premature birth and SIDS in the target communities. The Chicago Health Connection will train the peer educators.

## IN THE MINDS OF THOUSANDS

With Myleson Collins

Through out our life we all go through many trials and tribulations. Problems in life should be expected. The problem is what we expect from ourselves and how we handle many of the problems we go through. Growing as the fifth born out of seven children and having a single mother to struggle to raise us all I'm quite sure we all can relate to the pressure of using anger in the sincere since of frustration, retaliation, lack of love, and probably most of all a since of knowing self.

I write this column to say that I too have many problems most of them are memories that haunt me from growing up without any lights, heat in the winter, or a breath of fresh air in the summer, and I can never forget those evictions notices and coming home to see all of our belongings out on the streets. While my father lives well off with some other

women. "Yeah!, Some Chicago Police Sergeant he was."

As an African American male at the age 22 I to have struggled with the self-esteem issues that I see many people struggle with behind close doors. I too use to look in at myself in the mirror and ask why do spend all this money on clothes to impress the world, but when I come home I'm completely broke. I cry, Oh! Yes I cry. I too look up in the air after fronting for long hours with peers, friends, associates about who I really am. I too have been faced with embarrassment, and I too have used those very same feelings as motivations and strength to carry on throughout my life.

I was my mother's first child to go off to college and complete all four years. I lived in the North Lawndale Community since I was 11 years old and

I have seen a lot, heard a lot, and been through a lot. To be honest with you guys I would not change a thing because the heart that gained from the struggle, the mind set, and the man that I am now was a result of the hardship I suffered much earlier in life. I am not saying fall in love with your situation but I am saying do not allow your situation to define you. You define it.

I have noticed in the many speaking engagements that I have had that many people look for heroes whether it's on T.V., in other people, or even in material things. You did not understand anything I said in this article understand this. You are your own biggest hero. When you focus on your goals and go about completing them you will realize that will become the hero of others

I'm not asking the question is this

story one of truth, I'm writing because I know it is the truth. So when you read I hope you can look in the mirror and think, "How can I impact the world in a positive way and not let impact me in a negative way."

(This message is for every one, but I especially want young the men to read it because I know and understand the things we go mentally and physically everyday.)

"Life is a straight road, your vision should never be crooked, we as a community must stay focused on the straight road."

Myleson Collins is motivational speaker and a graduate of Trinity International. Myleson talks to youth about the importance of education and setting goals for success. To comment on this article email Myleson at: Myleson@hotmail.com or visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.



### Gala from front page



William Stewart as "King of the Mardi Gras"

the Chancellor of the City Colleges of Chicago, Dr. Wayne Watson, who was escorted in and introduced to the audience by the elegantly costumed President of Malcolm X College, Zerrie D. Campbell. Notables from through out the city showed their love and support for what has become one of the premier fundraiser on the Westside of Chicago.

The entertainment began with a New Orleans Mardi Gras styled parade that led revelers into the Hayden auditorium where MXC resident MC Dean Lee Owens greeted all and introduced Malcolm X College President Zerrie Campbell. After thanking the audience for supporting the Ninth Annual Scholarship Gala, she gave a brief history of the gala, presenting the Dr. Randle Johnson Fine Arts Scholarship to two MXC students, Donna Murray & Latoya Dawson. She then acknowledged special guests, sponsors, the MXC administrative staff and the scholarship committee chaired by Mrs. Michelle Thibodeaux who is an Alpha



Scholarship gala guests enjoy music and dance at gala



Mrs. Michelle Thibodeaux, an Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority sister, poses along with President Campbell

Kappa Alpha Sorority sister. A Student talent showcase revue featuring the poetry of Shaquila Moore followed by a Phi Theta Kappa step show. A dance spectacular featuring the Najwa Dance Corp, MXC stepping instructors James Calvin, Rose Lewis Calvin and stepper extraordinaire Saladeen closed the auditorium program.

The second level New Orleans - Big Easy Café was the location for the awesome show performance of the Gentlemen of Leisure Band under the direction of Mr. Boyce Edwards. They absolutely wowed the audience with their big band contemporary sound and talented vocal group renditions of many musical favorites. During breaks, raffles were held with prized Shona Stone and wire sculptures going to Malcolm X-Press News Editor Cynthia Val Chapman.

Notables seen on the dance floor included Larue Martin with the UPS "Angels" Tammie Brown, Meta Coleman, Erica Martin, and Eboni Bast Coleman, Don Wallace of Miller Brewing Co. and MXC Alumni Association President Alan Hood.

Story and photos by Bernard Williams.



Gentlemen of Leisure band wow the crowd with varied songs and artists.



Alumni Henry English, President of the Black United Fund of Illinois along with another guest of the gala in lobby area where vendors of afriware served customers during the month of February.



Ron Grimmatt as "Zorro"

## To Your Health

### CHICAGO AREA PROJECT AND LOCAL OFFICIALS KICK-OFF ALL KIDS PRE-REGISTRATION PARTNERSHIP



CAP's All Kids Roll Call

Representatives from CAP (Chicago Area Project) and the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS), CAP's held a pre-registration training session for representatives from CAP affiliate agencies in Cook, DuPage, and Lake Counties for Gov. Blagojevich's All Kids program, which provides health insurance to all Illinois children.

CAP representatives were urged to go back to their agencies, train all staff and volunteers, and then start pre-registering families by visiting churches, schools, malls,

transportation terminals, stores and other locations. The pre-registration drive ends on March 3. 40 CAP affiliate agencies across the Chicagoland region will participate in a rally in Chicago on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

State Senator Ricky Hendon (D-5), Alderman Walter Burnett, Jr., (27<sup>th</sup> Ward), and Alderman Ed Smith (28<sup>th</sup> Ward) were also participants in the pre-registration training session.

"All Kids should be a national program, not just in Illinois," said Sen. Hendon. "We looked in the budget and the money is already there. We have All Kids. We're going to keep All Kids. I look forward to the day when all people will have health insurance in Illinois."

"To take care of our children and make sure that they have decent healthcare in this city is a no-brainer," said Ald. Burnett. "I want to commend the Governor for finding a way to make sure that every child in the State of Illinois has affordable healthcare."

Ald. Smith praised the pre-registration drive effort. "I thank the leadership of this effort who have worked tirelessly to see that they have proceeded the way that they have."

Once a pre-registration form is received, HFS will process the information and mail parents a letter to explain the next steps in the application process. When it is time for

the family to apply, the Department will mail each family an All Kids application that will be partially filled out based on the information provided during pre-registration. Children who are determined eligible for KidCare can apply immediately to receive health coverage. Families not currently eligible for KidCare may still apply early in 2006 to start receiving benefits July 1, 2006 when the All Kids program begins.

Parents can also pre-register their children by calling the All Kids toll-free number at 1-866-ALL-KIDS (1-866-255-5437) or going online to [www.allkidscovered.com](http://www.allkidscovered.com). Pre-registration forms should be filled out and mailed to All Kids, P.O. Box 19122, Springfield, IL 62794-9805, or they will be collected at pre-registration sites across the state over the next few months. For more information about pre-registering through the Chicago Area Project All Kids Pre-Registration Drive, families can contact their local CAP affiliate organization or call Keith Jackson at 312-498-0117.

Of the approximately 250,000 children in Illinois without health insurance, more than half come from working and middle class families who earn too much to qualify for programs like KidCare, but not enough to afford private health insurance. The Governor's program would make comprehensive health insurance available to children, including doctor's visits, hospital stays, prescription drugs, vision care, dental

care and medical devices like eye glasses and asthma inhalers. Parents will pay monthly premiums and co-payments for doctors' visits and prescription drugs at affordable rates.

The CAP All Kids pre-registration drive affiliate organization list

Chicago Area: St. Agatha's Family Empowerment (SAFE), 3147 West Douglas Blvd., 773-522-1354 (North Lawndale), Agape Youth Development/Family Services, 320 S. Spaulding, 773-638-6718 (East Garfield), 6533-Casa Aztlan, 1831 S. Racine Ave., 312-666-5508 (Lower West Side, Pilsen Area), Horner Association of Men, 3300 W. Maypole (Near West Side), Lakeside Community Committee, Major Adams Community Committee, 2022 W. Washington Blvd., 312-491-9100 (West Side), Mid-Austin Steering Committee, 816 N. Laramie Ave., 773-287-5717 (Austin), Near Northwest Civic Committee, 1450 West Chicago Ave., 312-243-2342 (Westtown Area), Near Westside Youth Development Project, 847 S. Lytle, 312-666-1312 (ABLA Homes), Ruiz Belvis, 1632 N. Milwaukee, 773-235-3988 (Humboldt Park, Logan Square), Sembrando El Futuro (SELF), 1305 N. Hamlin, 773-384-8118 (Humboldt Park), Westside Community Service Organization, 325 S. California, 773-265-7632 (West side), Youth Service Committee/Westside, 1465 W. Chicago Avenue/1854 W. Monroe St., 312-491-1476 (near Westside).

## WE WANT TO KNOW Focuses On The Better Life For Youth Program

Leroy Burton Jr.



Nathan Wright

On February 18, the Better Life For Youth program held a meeting for the students enrolled in the program in order to address some concerns about their upcoming trip to Atlanta and to allow a couple of guests they invited to address the students.

The first guest, Philip Costello (from "New Expression" - a teen newspaper) addressed the students about having a career in journalism. He explained to them that the paper he's with could be a place to begin if anyone was interested.

The kids didn't show much enthusiasm for journalism, however. So, they moved on to the next guest speaker, Mr. Nathan Wright, who spoke of the importance of table etiquette when at an interview or when having lunch/dinner with a V.I.P. from the corporate world. During his presentation he made use of a table he had set up in the same way it would be at a fancy restaurant or home (according to Mr. Wright).

He had an elegant arrangement of fine china, silverware, crystal, cloth napkins and a table cloth set up on the table, while he

proceeded to demonstrate how to use them all properly. The students however didn't seem to be too receptive to learning table etiquette.

From the questions that they were asking the speaker, I got the impression that they believed that the message he was trying to convey had no bearing on their situations. Their reactions were as if they thought the speaker was trying to get them to act "white". It seems I wasn't the only one feeling this vibe from the students.

A teacher who was present at the meeting must've been feeling it too because she rose from her seat in support of the speaker. She strongly stated that she knew exactly where the speaker was coming from. She mentioned that her job once sent her overseas where she had a meeting at a restaurant with some important people that required her to be familiar with table etiquette.

But what Mr. Wright was really trying to say, I believe, was that when you enter the corporate world you're not just getting a job but you're also entering the world of a different culture so you must learn their ways if you want to be welcomed (just as we would if we were traveling to a foreign land). Coming from a similar background as some of those kids I can understand why they feel like they do but at the same time as I get older I can also see what Mr. Wright is trying to do.

He's not implying that we learn these ways because they're better than ours but that we learn them because they open up more doors for us. Considering the condition of many of us in our communities; we don't need anymore closed doors.

After the meeting I interviewed several students. Here's what they had to say:

**Blake Douglas** Marshall H.S. - Sophomore. How she/he found out about the Better Life For Youth Program: cheerleading coach. College(s) wants to attend: Spellman/

See Youth page 8

## Intellectual Helotry: The Hidden Social Problem In America

Julius Goodman

This problem is a theory long considered. Understanding that the overall study of social problems encompasses an objective approach; there is a great deal of subjectivity involved in this research. The origin of the problem rests peacefully in the history of America. The effect of this problem has caused society to discover its values in a perplexed, confound, and disconcert system. The solution to this problem involves revolutionized tactics that concentrate on knowledge and awareness. The application of this hypothesis will enable society to recognize its greatest potential and create an avenue towards eliminating nearly all of its social problems.

Before we can fully understand Intellectual; Helotry and how it is a hidden social problem; it is to your advantage to grasp the definition of a social problem as it applies to this theory. A social problem is a condition in society affecting a significant number of people in ways considered undesirable, about which it is felt something can be done through collective social action.

Accordingly, many fallacies are the primary source that shape human attitudes towards social problems. Comprehension of the sociology of social problems is to have a general perception of why and how social problems develop, moreover; how people are affected by them. The intention of this writing is to focus on one ethnic group in American society; African Americans, blacks, Negroes, niggers, niggers. As we continue, let us first, apologize to those who fell offended by some, if not all of the preceding labels. We are not here to label, epithet, or in any way deny the importance or validity of this ethnic group. On the contrary, it is clearly a plus to know how you are identified in society, when doors are opened and when they are closed. For clarity and form we will identify this ethnic group as Black Americans.

Now take the meaning of the term social problem and keep it readily available in your thoughts as we continue. In our ninth new collegiate dictionary, the universally accepted

definition of intellectual is, "of or relating to the intellect or its use", furthermore; intellect is the power of knowing as distinguished from the power to feel and to will: the capacity for knowledge also the capacity for rational or intelligent thought especially when highly developed. Now notice intellectual is the pass participle of the word intellect. And intellect, figuratively speaking is intelligence which is the ability to learn or understand or to deal with new and trying situations. Reason is the power of orderly thought, the power to be able to think in a logical and rational manner. [Hold on, maintain concentration, you will see the importance of these definitions as you read on]

Immediately, let's look at the word helotry. It is a noun derived from the Greek word helot; who is defined as a member of a class of serfs in ancient Sparta and conjecturally, the word helot is defined as serf-slave. The word helot originated in the year 1579 and it means slave. It stands to reason that the word helotry means slavery. The word slavery came into being in the year 1551. It is the pass participle of the word slave. Slave is derived from the word Slav which identifies a Slavic people in the area of Slovenia. At this moment you are probably saying; "what do all these definitions have to do with our topic?" Look, slavery means "submission to a dominating influence." Drudgery. Toil: the state of a person who is a chattel of another. Now you cannot have slavery without the slave trade. This term came into existence in the year (1734), it means traffic in slaves: especially the buying and selling of Negroes for profit prior to the American civil war. And certainly you cannot have slavery or slave trade without someplace to keep slaves, thus we have the slave state. This term came into existence in the year 1809 it means; a state in the United States in which Negro slavery was legal until the civil war. More importantly it means a nation subjected to totalitarian rule.

Julius Goodman is poet, motivational speaker and student at National Louis University majoring in Behavioral Science. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: [www.nlcn.org](http://www.nlcn.org).

**Say NO to Police Brutality and YES to Asserting Your Rights.**



**LAW OFFICE OF STANDISH E. WILLIS, LTD.**

407 S. Dearborn, Suite 1395  
Chicago, IL 60605  
Phone: 312-554-0005  
312-554-1012 (fax)  
www.stanwillislaw.com

If they beat you, we'll beat them-only in court!

Email: info@stanwillislaw.com

**Areas of Expertise:** Police Brutality  
Criminal Defense  
Personal Injury

**Chicago Park District hosts UMOJA Celebration**

Priscilla Lucas (Perci)



The UMOJA Black History Celebration was held on February 18<sup>th</sup> at Homan Square Park. UMOJA was sponsored by the Chicago Park District. Umoja (ooh-MOE-jah) means unity and the Westside Communities were in one accord on this day. This celebration has been a part of the Homan Square, Douglas, Austin, and includes the entire Westside park districts and for eleven years have brought communities together, a principle practiced on the first day of Kwanzaa.

"We have Umoja celebrations, it has been going on since 1995 and this is my 11<sup>th</sup> year with it," said Clara Portis, Area Manager-Chicago Park District. "Umoja, which means unity and that is one thing I wanted to do when I first started in the Lawndale Community, is to bring everyone together families and friends together in one event for Black History," she adds. Various vendors filled the halls greeting people as they walked in the midst of their impressive works of art and crafts. Everything from jewelry to information about health care was available for the people to view or buy.

Officer Peete of C.A.P.S. (Chicago Alternative

Policing Strategy) cheerfully gave outside Light Lamps to those who correctly answered the Black History questions and key lights to those who tried.

"All of the providers in the community take part in this event," said Suzanne Tyler, Supervisor of Homan Square Park. "Clara Portis is the area manager, she has several parks in the area and all of the parks participate in this event," she said. The master of ceremony Yamilton Brown effortlessly entertained the people with his quick wit and enthusiastic style. Young people from the park district programs entertained the crowd with singing, dance performances, and poetry.

"The performers are children that come from the various parks and they will display their talents...performing the things they have learned from the park (programs)," said Tyler. Recording artist "Johnny P," soulful and versatile performance pleased the young and the old as he move from R&B singing Sam Cooke's-"A Change Is Gonna Come," to his latest song on his Hip-hop CD thrilling the crowd.

The performance had no age limit as senior citizens of The Austin and Columbus Park Seniors Club, strutted their stuff with line dancing that had everyone rocking from side to side as they glided across the floor.

It was a great way to celebrate black history with your neighbor and those who work in the community. "I grew up in Lawndale and I am proud to be here to do these activities for our community," said Portis.

Thanks to the Chicago Park District for sponsoring The UMOJA Black History Celebration. This festive event was a warm breeze on a cold day and the best way to celebrate the richness of our heritage with people embracing the principle of Umoja.

Priscilla Lucas is a North Lawndale resident and a journalism major at Columbia College. Priscilla is a student intern at NLCN. To comment on this article visit our weblog at www.nlcn.org.

**Five White Cops Beat Up Thirteen-Year-Old Black Boy**



Black Chicago residents are constantly being beaten, harassed, and victimized by local police officers. This epidemic is affecting law-abiding citizens, young and old. The City has shelled out millions of taxpayers' dollars to settle lawsuits for malicious officers. Between 1992 and 1997, the city reportedly paid more than \$29 million to settle 1,657 lawsuits involving excessive force, false arrest, and improper search allegations. The City is constantly protecting officers who heinously beat and violate the civil and constitutional rights of Black Chicagoans. The irony of the City paying these settlements is that, the same citizens who are being

victimized are also funding their settlements through their tax dollars. The same irony is found in the City paying for the defense of Former Chicago Commander Jon Burge, who tortured dozens of black inmates. The city has done little to change the culture of the police department since The Burge era. The culture continues to foster abusive policing tactics, which is evidence by a beating of a small thirteen-year-old child this past January, 2006.

January 26, 2006, 5 white male officers beat a willowy-framed 90 pound thirteen-year-old year old child. As the child left his grammar school and walked towards his older brother's school, so they could walk home together, two white officers yelled for him, "Come here bitch." Frightened by the officer's words and demeanor, he began to run. The officers chased him and threw his slender small framed body onto the ground, face first. The beating continued as the thirteen-year-old year was loaded into the back of a police car and carted off to yet another police car, where he was handed off to three different white officers. These three officers then took their turn pummeling the child.

The child and his mother are currently suing the City of Chicago and the five officers, though the Law Office of Standish E. Willis, for the child's physical and emotional injuries.

**IL Dept. of Veteran Affairs Salutes African-American Veterans**

Mary Moran

In honor of Black History month the Illinois Department of Veteran Affairs hosted a "Salute to African-American Veterans." The event was held at Montford Point Marines Association located at 7011 S. Vincennes Ave. in Chicago. African Americans have had an ongoing presence in the military since the revolutionary war, yet their contributions have often gone unrecognized, and many have had to wait years to be awarded for their services.

During World War II no African-American soldier was awarded the Medal of Honor. After an investigation showed racial disparity in the way Medal of Honor recipients were selected 10 soldiers were recommended. The awards were presented on Jan. 13, 1997, by President Bill Clinton. Only one soldier (1<sup>st</sup> Lt Vernon J. Baker) was still living and present to receive his award. The Medal of Honor award is presented to a soldier who exemplifies great bravery and courage during battle.

Now with the on going war in Iraq, where many African-American soldiers have been deployed, the IDVA wanted to salute African-American veterans both past and present for their contributions to the military with awards, certificates and medals.

Jim Rose, sports reporter for ABC 7 news was master of ceremony for the event, and, Lt. Col. (Retired), Attorney William H. Hooks was the keynote speaker. William Schmutz, director of Chicago Commission on Human Relations read the mayor's proclamation, Eric Schuller, senior policy advisory represented Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn, and Rochelle Crump, assistant director IDVA read the governor's proclamation.

Rose, a veteran himself started the ceremony giving history not only about contributions that African Americans soldiers have made to this country but about African Americans as well. "African-Americans are the only people that have been taken from one continent to another continent for slavery and have survived, he said." Rose also commented that this has been the "the worse century for wars." Rose went on to talk about the politics of the war and why it is important for the younger generation to vote.

State Senator Jacqueline Y. Collins of the 16<sup>th</sup> district also spoke on the contributions of

African American soldiers using memories of her father. "My father fought in the Korean War and after seeing many of his friends die he was never the same, she said."

But it just wasn't a salute to African-American men. We sometimes have a tendency to forget the African-American women who have served, but Col. Iris Foster-Denieuwe, US Army National Guard chose not to forget. She brought along a picture that had been found in her father's personal effects after he died. It showed African-American men and women seated together. "This picture puzzled me and so I did some research and found out that there was a postal service unit serving overseas at that time, and as soldiers we know how important it is to receive mail," she said.

Harry Porterfield ABC news reporter, veteran and host of "someone you should know" was on hand to give a few remarks thanking not only African-American veterans, but all veterans for their contributions.

Hooks was very vocal when talking about racism in the military during his time of service. He also said that as a lawyer he has represented many African American veterans in criminal cases. Hooks made it clear that he was not saying that it was just African American soldiers who have had hard times, he expressed that even white soldiers have problems with benefits, health care and crime after having served their country.

The salute also hosted a display of photographs with photos showing African-American soldiers in action. There were pictures of Pvt. Milton Lee Olive III [who gave his life to save his fellow soldiers] which was brought by his family members, to a young Staff Sgt. Harold Washington.

The event ended with Christine Finn, of the patriotic pillow project giving out pillows to all veterans. The pillow covers are handcrafted quilted replicas of the flag. The organization has delivered over 2,000 finished gifts of gratitude, since September 2004.

Mary Moran is a writer for NLCN. Mary is a U.S. Army veteran and journalism graduate from Columbia College in Chicago. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.

Education & Employment Training

Teachers Who Care

Renita Williams

After graduating high school almost ten years ago, I made the decision to return to school and I am pleased to say, "There are still teachers who care."

When a person makes the decision to attend college he or she has to be sure of what they want and determined to get it. College isn't like grammar school or high school where the teacher had five days a week to teach a subject, which allowed more time to help those who didn't grasp the subject right away.

In college an instructor has one or two days with 50 to 110 minutes respectively

to teach a subject which doesn't allow much time to break it down for those who may not understand. But that's not the case at Malcolm X College.

The instructors I've had the pleasure of working with at Malcolm X College have been excellent. After almost ten years I have gotten back in the habit and find myself able to grasp the information as quickly as I did back in high school. This is all do to the clear concise teaching from the instructors, especially with the math and its multiple steps.

Math is a challenge for most of us.

There is step after step to be learned in a short period of time. Back in 2001 I attempted to pursue my degree at another college. Putting it mildly it didn't work out. I had been an honor roll student in high school and I found it very discouraging when I couldn't get the math and realized I needed a tutor. I didn't have the time to see a tutor. Working full-time, going to school, and being a parent, like most of us are, makes it hard to find time to see a tutor. I didn't want to waste my time or money or anyone else's, so I stopped going.

Now I'm at it again. At Malcolm X, I have the same work just different instructors. I'm proud to say that "I am doing well in my classes, even the math, and I haven't had any tutoring.

My instructors have been excellent in the way they explain the lessons and I find that they work at a pace set by the class. Examples are always a big help and I think the instructors go over the limit for their class if necessary, as well as setting a great example for those before and those to come after them.

There's always room for improvement, but overall I think the teachers at Malcolm X College are doing a terrific job and I'm glad to be a student.

Renita Williams is an aspiring romance writer living in the North Lawndale Community. She is currently working on her Associate degree in Business Administration at Malcolm X College. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.

BASIC, INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED COMPUTER WORKSHOPS
Learn how to use a Computer (Computer Workshop)
Facilitator: Ronnie Allen
Learn how to create business cards, flyers, postcards, etc. (Desktop Publishing Workshop)
Facilitator: Meola Ivy
Learn how to create your own Website (Website Design Workshop)
Facilitator: Ronnie Allen
REGISTER NOW!
For More Info Call (312) 492-9090

Black Firsts
Mark Whitaker
\* In 1998, Mark Whitaker became the first black editor of a major news weekly (Newsweek) in the United States.
\* In 1961, James Stone became the first to fight with the Union forces during the Civil War.
\* In 1990, Bertram M. Lee became the first black to serve of the board of directors of Reebok International.
\* In 1935, Langston Hughes produced the first play (Mulatto) by a black author to become a long-run Broadway hit.
\* In 1967, Yvonne Watson Braithwaite Burke became the first black woman elected to the California state assembly. In 1971 Burke became the black Congresswomen from the Western United States.

Village from front page

resident Valerie Leonard. "We sent a letter to Mr. Gough of the Board of Elections. We got 119 signatures on the letter. We did get a response from the Board of Elections. They said that they could not affirmatively put the referendum on the ballot in the 24th Ward."

The referendum request was made by the Friends of Little Village/Lawndale High School, an organization represented by residents from North Lawndale and Little Village. Unity is also the goal of students as well.

"I would not want, like all of a sudden that we be the majority (African-Americans) and I think that everybody (some people) wants it (change) to be that way, but I don't want it to be that way because I have Latino friends too and I want it to stay like it is," said a Little Village High student from North Lawndale. "I know that everybody wants changes, but I think that it should stay the same. I think it is mostly political and who ever made this referendum should be bought to light and told that it should not be that way."

Faculty and administrators indicated that

they make a consensus effort to bridge the racial and cultural divide by organizing the students in work groups of both Latino and African-American students.

"We purposely have taken these kids and put them together to make sure there is a representative of each community in what ever we do," said Martha Irizarry, principal for Infinity Math and Science High School. "One of the things that we do every single day is to make sure that these kids need to talk and that when they do these projects, they are placed in teams so they need each other. They have to work together. In order to work with someone you really need to get to know someone. We make sure of that."

North Lawndale resident, Nicole Cabell-Pope suggested that the school host a campus-wide assembly inviting people from both communities to come and celebrate African-American and Hispanic culture and also the incorporation of Lawndale on the school's entrance sign to improve relationships between the neighboring communities.

Wilbert Bledsoe is NLCN's Managing Editor. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.

Introducing... SHOP MONEYWAYZ
"Save MONEY and Get PAID!"
... Every Time You Shop Online!
Shop Online With Over 100 Stores
No Driving to the retail locations
No Standing In Line Wasting Time
Great Prices & Discounts
Product Shipped To Your Door
You can shop at well-known places such as Wal-Mart, Dell, Buy.com, Office Max, AT&T, KB Kids, 1-800-Flowers, Sharper Image, Office Depot, Sony Music, Hickory Farms, and many more...
Call or Visit Our Website Now!
Call 1-888-277-4933 Ext. 95470
http://shopparana.moneywayz.com

YOUR CHILD CAN SUCCEED!
Catalyst SchoolsChicago
NEW Charter School Opening in North Lawndale
Small Classrooms
Individual Attention
Longer School Day
Longer School Year
Strong Parental Involvement
Applications being accepted NOW through April 15th for the Fall of '06
High Expectations.
High Accountability.
High Results.
Call today for an application:
P: 773.535.8664
fax: 773.535.8096
For more information
www.catalystschools.org

# OBSCURED ORGANIZERS AND PIONEERS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT: THE UNSUNG HEROES OF THE MOVEMENT!

Fred Mitchell



When people talk about the civil rights movement the first names that come to mind are Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks. Significant contributions to the movement were made by other obscured and hardly recognized men like Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, E.D. (Edgar Daniel) Nixon and A. Phillip Randolph. Of all the civil rights organizers and pioneers, E.D. Nixon was the most prominent.

Author and historian, Adib Rashad, wrote

that the civil rights movement actually began when African Americans openly expressed their disdain against ill treatment at the hands of their European American oppressors. This movement was originally comprised of church ministers and their working class congregation. History informs us that the very first act of protest—excluding the slave rebellions—began with Richard Allen and Absalom Jones toward the end of the eighteenth century. They organized a group called the Free African Society and later a national African Methodist Episcopal Church. The church's philosophy of freedom and self-reliance permeated the African American community to the extent that civil rights protests in periodic and varied degrees highlighted the African American's legitimate concerns for freedom and justice. Allen and Jones paved the way for the church and some of its minister's involvement in civil rights agitation in the years to come.

The contemporary civil rights movement consisted of various ethnic groups and class persuasions, and it reached its apex in the 1960s under the primary leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. Nixon also used his influence to encourage Dr. King, who also was hesitant, to get involved. Therefore, it was not happenstance that the civil rights

movement began with Mrs. Parks, or that Mr. Nixon would lead and organize her defense and conceive the bus boycott tactic. Mrs. Rosa Park's refusal to relinquish her bus seat to a white man ignited the organized struggle against southern segregation. Mr. Nixon pointed out that Mrs. Parks had been the third person to be arrested for defying this customary Jim Crow practice; however, he knew that Mrs. Parks could be depended on for a test case—history would prove him correct.

E.D. Nixon was a long time activist, outspoken organizer in the African American community, and a past president of the Montgomery chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He was also a Pullman porter who was greatly inspired by A. Philip Randolph. In fact, Randolph's union leadership ability and articulator skills enhanced Nixon's will to fight more relentlessly for African American justice. He made the following statement in this regard: "It was like a light the most eloquent man I heard.... I never knew the Negro had a right to enjoy freedom like everyone else. When Randolph stood there and talked that day it made a different man out me. From that day on, I was determined that I was gonna fight

for freedom until I was able to get some of it myself."

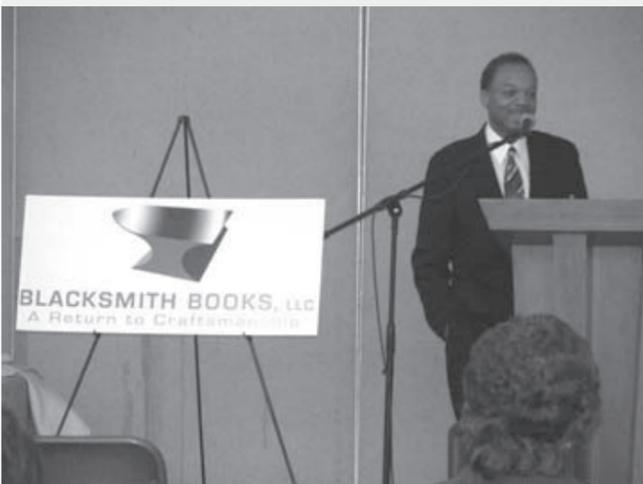
According to Rashad, there is no doubt that the Montgomery bus boycott was the pivotal point in the civil rights struggle; it was the first mass action movement of its kind. Inspirationally speaking, there were many others over the ten-year period that eventually toppled the Jim Crow system. However, according to some political analysts, none was better organized. This can be attributed to the insightfulness and organizing talents of E. D. Nixon. Interestingly, Mr. Nixon never wanted national attention; he preferred to stay in the background and work. Mr. Nixon did not have much formal education, and his contemporaries did not always like him. Nevertheless, he worked incessantly to bring about a change in Montgomery. He strongly believed that a man must stand for what is right, even if it meant standing alone.

On February 25, 1987, Mr. E. D. Nixon at the age of eighty-seven died of a cardiac arrest. Perhaps sometime in the near future, this distinguished and obscured civil rights leader will receive his just rewards like others did...it's all up to you! "E.D." is gone, but must never be forgotten!

Fred Mitchell is a North Lawndale resident. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: [www.nlcn.org](http://www.nlcn.org).

## Blacksmith Books Open for Business

Todd Thomas



Mark Allen Boone

The literary scene in Chicago just got a little richer as west side native Mark Allen Boone announced the release of the first book by Blacksmith Publishing Company *The Demise of Luleta Jones* (written by Boone) at a book signing at St. Agatha Catholic Church in North Lawndale

Boone, a 23-year publishing industry veteran is a writer with a mission, not just to fulfill his own desire to write, but to also help other African-American writers get their literature published. Boone believes that mainstream publishing companies and the American book industry have not been supportive of African-American writers or readers and they have also been very stereotypical in what they do support and publish. This reality was the impetus that

spurred Boone to establish Blacksmith Publishing in 2005.

"The publishing companies have a limited concept of who black people are and what they're about," Boone said.

Boone also points out that there is a glut of "urban fiction" and "street literature" often laced with sex, which dominates the African-American literary scene today. He doesn't deny that there is a market for this kind of literature, there's just too much of it and not much else.

"I'm not denying that there is not room for the kind of material that's out there, my complaint is that it's not more balanced," said Boone. "What about the millions of other people who are living different life experiences. How are their stories getting out there ... that's where I'm hoping to bridge the gap."

Boone's own *The Demise of Luleta Jones* should help bridge another gap; the gap between Chicago's Southside and Westside communities. The novel is set in a fictional upscale, gentrifying community on Chicago's west side; a place not many writers have cared to write about according to Boone.

"There has been this rivalry between the Westside and the Southside," Boone said. It's

as though nothing happens on the Westside, and whatever happens on the Westside is always negative. I consciously in writing this book wanted to address the breach between the Southside and the Westside." He adds, "I'm a Westsider at heart and I'm committed to getting west side stories told."

Even before Boone founded Blacksmith Books he was working to nurture the writing scene on the Westside of town. In 1990 he started the West Side Writer's Guild, a support group for aspiring writers who lacked an organized forum to share their work and hone their craft. The organization is no longer active, but they did self-publish an anthology *Guildworks: Writings by the West Side Writers Guild* (1996).

Most writers are lovers of literature and Boone is no exception. Favorite authors of his are James Baldwin, Cyrus Kolter and Toni Morrison. He points out however, that the list of current black women writers is long while that of their male counterparts is alarmingly short. He sees Blacksmith Books as a beacon of light for all African-American writers but he does emphasize the need for more male voices.

"I want to seek out the black male writers who have experienced the same rejection and frustration I've had in getting my work published." In addition he says that there is an industry profile of a typical non-reader and black men

fit squarely but unjustly into that box. "I beg to differ," Boone said. "I say that black men are not buying books and reading because there's not material out there that appeals to them - that connects to their experience."

Boone's faith also plays a large part in his life and he readily acknowledges how it affects his work in literature and publishing.

"I've been blessed; God blessed me with people who gave me opportunities to develop my craft. I feel driven by my faith because my faith has equipped me to overcome most of the obstacles I've had to overcome to get here."

For more information or to purchase *The Demise of Luleta Jones* Visit Blacksmith Books at: [www.blacksmithbks.com](http://www.blacksmithbks.com) or call 630-969-5145.

Todd Thomas is a freelance writer for NLCN and other publications. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: [www.nlcn.org](http://www.nlcn.org).

**CERTIFIED DNA TESTING**

**Paternity - Are you the father?**  
**Maternity - Are you the mother?**  
**Grandparent Studies - Is she my grandchild?**  
**Sibling Studies - Are we brothers and sisters?**  
**Twin Studies - Are we identical or fraternal?**

**LOW LOW PRICES**  
**Call NOW! 773-209-5920 R. Johnson**

**General Home Maintenance & Repair**

SPECIALIZING IN CEMENT WORK, GARAGE FLOORS, DRIVEWAYS, DRYWALL CEILINGS, SIDEWALKS, CEMENT STEPS, PATIOS & FENCING

~ WILL DO SUBCONTRACTING JOBS ~

**QUALITY WORK**  
**AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE**

LICENSED ~ BONDED ~ INSURED

George Sams Jr. ~ (708) 602-7853 **FREE ESTIMATES**

**Patterson Tax Service**

**4386 W. Odgen Ave.**  
 Chicago, Illinois 60623  
**Main Office**  
 Tel: (773) 677-6496 or 277-8146

**Bookeeping, Small Business Accounting, Corp Taxes & Etc.**

★ 4 Locations To Service You ★

**TAX REFUNDS IN 24 HOURS**  
 Trained & Licensed Accountants

**FREE ELECTRONIC FILING**

File your taxes and cash your check at the lowest price in Currency Exchange on premises when Patterson prepare your taxes

For More Information Call:  
 (773) 677-6496 - 277-2630 or 277-0524

# Urban Art Retreat, Not Just For The Disabled

Clemolyn (Pennie) Brinson



Marvin Scott and his artwork

Since 1984 the Urban Art Retreat (UAR) located at 1957 S. Spaulding Avenue has been a volunteer-operated, nonprofit organization where people with differences come together to create art. But you don't have to be an artist to be a member. You just have to be a person who wants to meet and be with people who use art to mingle.

Dianna C. Long, curator for UAR, used art to help herself while in the process of grieving, after her longtime friend Lizzie died in 1988. Since then the Differently Minded Art Studio at UAR has developed into a longtime commitment providing a means for mentally and/or physically challenged

See Art page 10

## Youth from page 4



Clark. Type of degree seeking: Law. Comments on the program: "I like the program. I have no dislikes. It helps kids get off the streets".

**Devon Sanders** Westinghouse-Junior How she/he found out about the Better Life For Youth Program: counselor. College(s) wants to attend: Morehouse. Type of degree seeking: Business. Comments on the program:

"They're trying to bring up the youth and get them into good colleges".

**Antonio Reed** Westinghouse-Junior. How she/he found out about the Better Life For Youth Program: counselor. College(s) wants to attend: Champaign, IL. Type of degree seeking: Business Administration. Comments on the program: "Everything is nice. They get the young brothers and young ladies off the streets. They got us looking for colleges and keeping our heads in the books."

**Jerome Jones** North Lawndale College Prep. H.S.-Senior. How she/he found out about the Better Life For Youth Program: Another program he's in. College(s) wants to attend: Columbia College, Chicago. Type of degree seeking: music technician. Comments on the program: "I like the idea about taking inner-city youth to Atlanta to look at colleges. The program's solid. There should be more like it".

**Tammarah Harrington** Marshall-Junior How she/he found out about the Better Life For Youth Program: Marshal staff

member. College(s) wants to attend: Clark Atlanta University. Type of degree seeking: Business. Comments on the program: "It helps the youth by taking time off their hands to do bad things and using it to do constructive things. It's a cool program. It's well organized. It's fun, and it's good for teens who ain't got nothing better to do."

**Kandyce Kirksey** Marshall-Junior. How she/he found out about the Better Life For Youth Program: counselor. College(s) wants to attend: Grambling State University. Type of degree seeking: Mortuary Science. Comments on the program: "It gives us more opportunities to see different stuff. There's nothing I don't like about it. It's a good program. More kids should join it."

*Leroy Burton is a writer for North Lawndale Community News. To comment on this story then visit our weblog at: www.nlcen.org.*

*If you have any ideas about what's going on on the Westside that you think would make a good story then send your request to: ww2kn@yahoo.com*

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Ages 2-6

Before & After School Care

Lawndale Community Daycare

1800 S. Lawndale - (773) 257-0497

Open from 6am-6pm

Working Parents, Parents going to School or in a Training Program

Field Trips Hot Meals Computers Camera Club

HURRY HURRY SPACES ARE LIMITED! CALL (773) 257-0497

**Free Prize In Every Box!**

Only at WPI-U.S. Cellular

**\*FREE Rechargeable Bluetooth Earpiece!**

Wireless. Rechargeable. Universal.

Moldable earpiece

Bluetooth earpiece available for purchase for only **\$49.95**

Compatible with any bluetooth phone!

**Bluetooth**

**NOKIA BlackBerry**

1-866-WPI-4-YOU  
www.wpicellular.com

**WPI Lawndale**  
3210 W. Roosevelt Rd. Suite B  
Chicago, IL 60624  
(773) 638-5920

**U.S. Cellular**  
AUTHORIZED AGENT  
PLATINUM CERTIFIED

Need information for your business? Call Brad at 1-847-239-7112 x1016

Bring in this ad to one of our participating locations today!

\*With new activation of any bluetooth capable phone on plans \$39.95 or higher. Promo Code: LD-3-1-06

**Supreme Capital Funding, Inc.**

Residential and Small Commercial Mortgages

1205 S. Western Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60608  
Office: (312) 421-8880  
Fax: (312) 421-8909  
email:supremecapital@msn.com

An Illinois Residential Mortgage Licensee

**Why are you throwing your money away?**

Own your own home for less than your current monthly rent!

- First Time Homebuyers Program
- 100% Financing
- No Income/No Asset Verification
- Poor Credit Programs
- Up to 107% Purchases

**Refinance your home today!**

- Cash out for any reason!
- Consolidate Debts
- Lower Monthly Payments
- 10 Year, 15 Year, 30 Year, 40 Year Terms

**Call today for a no cost mortgage consultation 312-421-8880**

**We have a mortgage to fit your needs**

No or Low Money Down Loans Available!

|         | TOTAL RENT PAID |          |          |  |
|---------|-----------------|----------|----------|--|
| Monthly | 1 Yr            | 2 Yrs    | 3 Yrs    |  |
| \$800   | \$9,600         | \$19,200 | \$28,800 |  |
| \$1,000 | \$12,000        | \$24,000 | \$36,000 |  |
| \$1,200 | \$14,400        | \$28,800 | \$43,200 |  |

**24 Hour Free Recorded Messages**

Purchase Information Hotline  
**888-212-2290 x8601**

Refinance Information Hotline  
**888-212-2290 x8600**

Investment Information Hotline  
**888-212-2290 x8650**

# Harris Bank and the North Lawndale Community News Honors North Lawndale's Small Business of the Month HARRIS™ Brother's Barber and Beauty Salon



Left to right manager Cheryl Hunter, four of five employees, Deondre Burnett, Allen Vaughn, Shandell Washington, Duane Vaughan and customer Monnell Dean



Tyrone Hunter Jr shows off his father's establishment

North Lawndale Community News and Harris Bank are proud to honor Brother's Barber and Beauty Salon as March's North Lawndale's Small Business of the Month. Brother's Barber and Beauty Salon is located at 914 S. Western Ave. Hours of operation are 9am to 9pm Tuesday thru Saturday.

The business was started three years ago by Tyrone Hunter, when he was only 24 years-old. "My mother and my grandfather inspired me," said Tyrone who is married and has a 9 year-old son named after him. "I knew I had to do something."

Cheryl Hunter, Tyrone's mother said she was happy when he told her he was starting the business because he could have been on the streets.

The Hunters have always lived on the Westside of Chicago. Ms. Hunter said they came from low-income status where they lived on Lexington and California but they have always worked hard. "We struggled," she said.

Tyrone chose the business of hair since his childhood friends used to talk about doing hair when they were younger. A couple of those friends work in the salon that buzzes customers in and out. But in the beginning he had a problem getting more employees, even with advertisements, due to the recent crimes in hair salons.

"The first year was rough. I thought about giving up. My family kept telling me to hold on. It'll happen. Year two got a little bit better. The end of year two got better. I'm moving up." Now Brother's has five talented hair stylists: four men and one woman, and specializes in eyebrow arching, Taper cuts, razor lining, Afros shaping, and braids. "Anything that has to do with hair," said Tyrone.

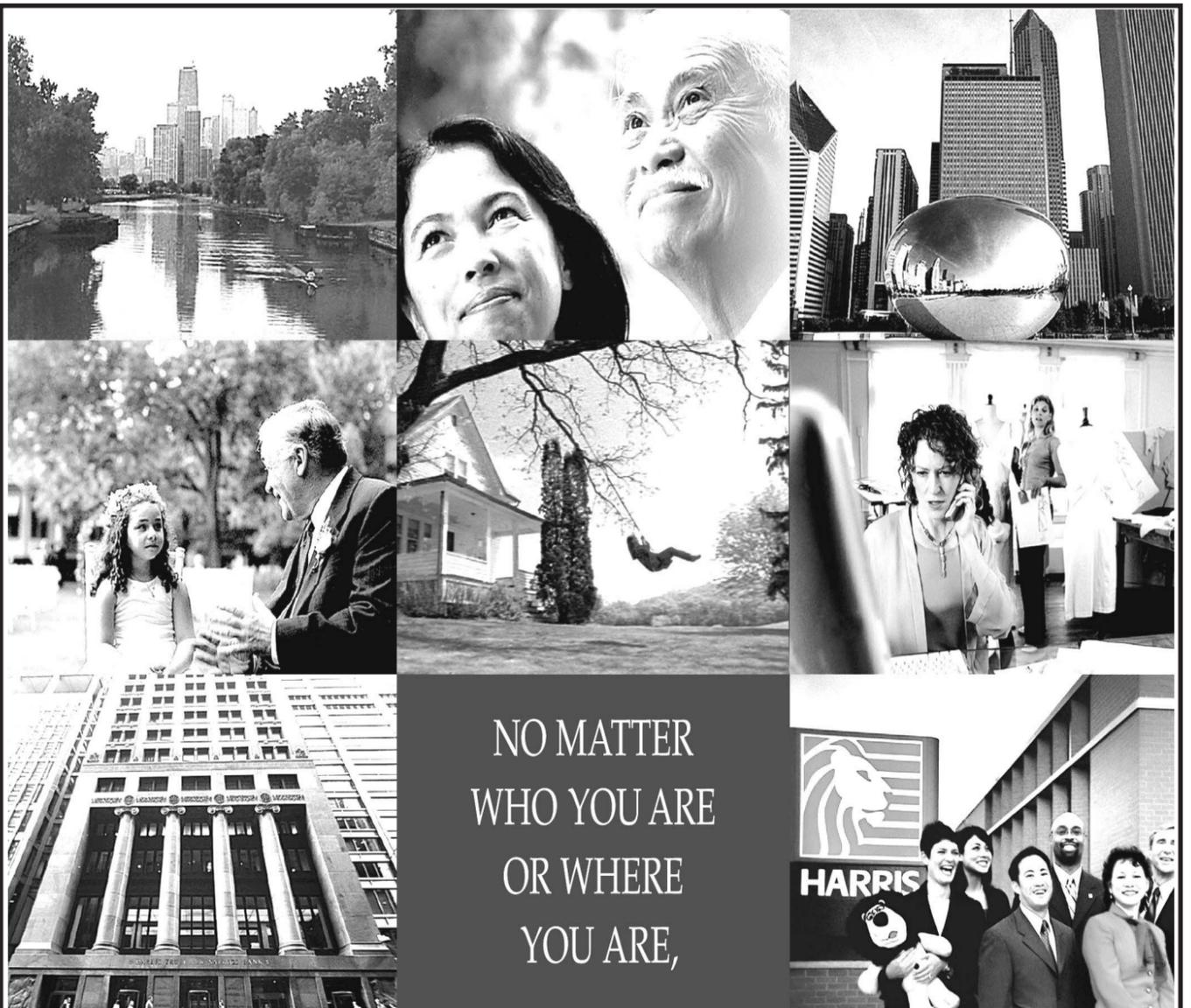
Brother's Barber and Beauty Salon gives back to the Lawndale community by giving free haircuts or hairdo's to kids who get good grades in school. "We inspire all kids to stay positive, stay in school, say no to drugs and feel that they can come in and talk to us about anything," Tyrone told NLCN.

Brother's also gives back-to-school discounts and family discounts. Wednesday is Senior Day when Brother's gives seniors a 20% discount.

This month Brother's will launch a new service - facials for \$12. "We will deep-cleanse, work on pores, remove blackheads, and make your skin silky-smooth," said Tyrone.

In April he hopes to start another service, which he doesn't want to reveal just yet. Eventually Tyrone plans to own one of the biggest beauty salons and barber shops in the city. For more information call 312-829-2670.

*Clemolyn (Pennie) Brinson is a poet and writer for NLCN and Residents Journal. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.*



NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE,



## LION POWER IS WITH YOU ALL THE WAY.

Harris has been serving families and businesses since 1882. Today, with locations in neighborhoods throughout Chicagoland, Chicago's hometown bank—and Lion Power—is nearby. And we're ready to help, whatever your financial needs may be.



[harrisbank.com](http://harrisbank.com)



PERSONAL BANKING • WEALTH MANAGEMENT • BUSINESS BANKING • DIRECT INVESTING

**West Garfield Park**  
3900 W. Madison St.  
773-265-5100

**Cicero/Little Village**  
2903 S. Cicero Ave.  
708-780-3800

Harris is a trade name used by Harris N.A. and its affiliates. Member FDIC.

Economic Development

NatZ CloZet Celebrates It's One Year Anniversary March 11, 2006



store NatZ CloZet is going to be", said Steeve Kidd, co-owner. NatZ CloZet originally set out to be a mid-scale family style boutique offering new and gently worn apparel for men, women and children. Their goal is to provide quality clothing at affordable prices and provide an avenue for shoppers to earn cash back on clothing they're no longer use. The consignment component of NatZ CloZet was their strong suit last year whereby over 75 individuals took advantage of the earn cash back program. "Our women's

consignments really picked up over the summer which triggered the transition away

from children clothing" said Natalie Kidd, co-owner. Although, NatZ no longer sale children clothing, their concept remains in tact today and will continue to be the medium that NatZ CloZet believe makes them unique and will kept them in business for years to come.

The relationship with its customers is also important at NatZ CloZet, the customer is asked for suggestions on the store, provide insight on fashion trends and occasionally, drop by for friendly conversation. "We pride ourselves on atmosphere and in our clothing selections regardless if its new or used apparel" said Natalie, "we want our customers to know they're getting quality goods and good service here". Creating a warm and inviting environment starts with the husband and wife team of Steeve and Natalie who share the same vision, working together and understanding their roles. "It's simple says Steeve, she handles the women's stock and I handle the men's, I also do my part by staying out of her way, that keeps the friction down". Natalie brings a warm, charming, caring and very personable character and Steeve has the at your service approach and is also very personable. Whether they're in the shop together or not, you can expect to have a comfortable and enlightening shopping experience.



merchandise for both men and women. Men can expect to see high fashion shoes, shirts, jeans and sport coats to accompany their line of stylish two-piece walking suits. Women look for colorful tops and jeans and stylish shoes to complement your ensemble.

"Wright now, it's all about March 11, said Steeve and we are so excited"! March 11, 2006 earmarks the one year anniversary at NatZ CloZet, 2420 West Roosevelt (Western and Roosevelt) in Chicago. And, they're celebrating with live entertainment with musical guest: Saxophonist, Audley Reid (12 pm - 2 pm) and Flutist, Steve Flowers (2 pm - 4 pm). NatZ CloZet is inviting you to come and celebrate with them and indulge in savory Jazz sounds, tasty delights and **HUGE SAVINGS** on store clearance and new spring and summer arrivals. Don't miss this memorable event; and don't forget to bring a friend.

NatZ CloZet plans to kick it up a notch in 2006 by increasing its level of new

**1yr ANNIVERSARY SALE!**

**NatZ CloZet**

**The West Side's Finest  
Apparel & Consignment Boutique**  
2420 WEST ROOSEVELT ROAD

---

**TAKE ON A NEW FASHION ATTITUDE AND  
CATCH THE THRILL OF A GREAT BUY!**

**EARN EXTRA CASH  
NOW ACCEPTING SPRING/SUMMER CONSIGNMENTS,  
CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT: (312) 226-7878**

**REDEEM THIS COUPON FOR ADDITIONAL 10% OFF REDUCED ITEMS**

**MARCH 11, 2006 - MARCH 28, 2006 ONLY**

10% Additional Off Coupon

**NatZ CloZet**  
2420 W. Roosevelt  
Chicago, IL 60608

10% Additional Off Coupon

**NatZ CloZet**  
2420 W. Roosevelt  
Chicago, IL 60608

Art from page 8

individuals to express themselves through art and mix with other people who are not like them.

"Everyone who comes in the door gets an education of some kind," says Dianna. "People who don't know artists get an idea of what they are like. And people who have disabilities are kind enough to share what their lives are like with people who don't."

The idea is founded on the belief that differences can be interesting to learn about and can help us understand each other, says Dianna. "Our similarities are what's going help us get along. The program offers opportunities to practice social skills."

Marvin Scott, 42, is a regular who attends

the Saturday session from 11 to 1pm. His first experience with art was at a UIC art therapy program in 1993. He came to UAR after the UIC program ended. He now works with acrylic paints, which are easier to "fix" than watercolors and oils, which he tried previously.

When he first started practicing art at UAR Marvin's work consisted of mostly "communication pieces," expressing his stressful experiences on the CTA or at work, and the art was painted in monotone colors. UAR eventually taught him how to mix colors, and he has recently started using the new colors to paint three-dimensional objects. He is also learning to use the tip of the paintbrush to paint thin lines.

UAR has worked with organizations such as Chicago Commons, Friends of Battered Women & Children, Housing Resource Center of Jane Addams Hull House, and many more. Recently, UAR worked for the second time with the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless displaying artworks of women who have a history of sexual abuse and prostitution. This event took place at Northwestern University Law School where over 800 people attended to be alerted of the connection between prostitution and homelessness.

Most of those pieces were previously displayed at the annual dinner party at UAR in January 2006. The paintings included works of gang rape, distorted images representing mind rape, and images about incest and child abuse.

"When UAR started doing survivor shows it wasn't common," she says, "...but women were so happy to be able to have a place to tell their story ... It's a good educational tool for people who have no idea of the trauma that some people go through. For people who go through life without having extreme

trauma it's very hard for them to relate ... Lots of times, for a woman to start prostituting her body, she has been abused already and used to being treated poorly," she says.

In honor of Women's History Month, these and other works by women will be displayed at UAR beginning March 4, with a simultaneous show at the Douglass Park Cultural Center located at Douglas and Sacramento. The UAR show runs through April 22 and the show at Douglass Park Center runs through April 1. The UAR gallery is open on Saturdays from 11-4 and by appointment by calling the center. The Douglas Park show is open Monday through Saturday.

Scheduled for March 18 (1-4) at UAR is an open mic reading for women writers, and it is open to the public. Women of all walks of life are welcome to come and share their poetry. The public is encouraged to come and hear what these women have to say. For more information call 773-542-9126.

*Clemolyn (Pennie) Brinson is a poet and writer for NLCN and Residents Journal. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.*

**Ready to Sell, Buy a Home or Investment Property**  
Let my Knowledge and Dedication of 10 Years  
in Real Estate Business Assist You!

**"Don't Make A Move Without Me"**

**FREE MARKET ANALYSIS**  
**FREE ADVERTISING AND**  
**AGGRESSIVE MARKET PLAN**  
**FREE HUD LISTINGS AND**  
**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE**  
**OFFICER/TEACHER NEXT DOOR PROGRAM**

**Lorene Gunter**  
**Realtor Associate**

**BUY OR LIST WITH US**  
AND USE OUR  
**MOVING TRUCK**  
**FREE**

**HUNTER'S REALTY, INC.**  
"A Service Company Serving All Your Real Estate Needs"

**6547 W. North Ave.**  
**Oak Park, IL 60302**  
**Phone: 708/628-2900 Ext. 12**  
**Fax: 708/628-2910**  
**www.HRI1.com**

**Historic Realty, Inc.**

- Property Sales
- Rental Service

- Buyer Agency
- Property Management

**Michael Ramstedt**  
Broker/Owner

Let my 19 years experience living and working in the near west side & west side help you with all of your real estate needs.

Whether you are looking to buy, sell or rent property, I can help you achieve your goals.

I believe that all of my clients deserve personalized service and the best real estate experience that I can provide!

We have years experience representing investors and have a long list of buyers . . . Let me help you sell your property at the best price possible!!!!

**SEARCH PROPERTIES**

GO TO  
[www.historic-realty.com](http://www.historic-realty.com)

CLICK ON  
"Dreamseekers"

**Serving the Greater West Side**

**2341 W. Taylor St. • 312-243-4033**

# SWEET BEGINNINGS Fundraiser, a Sweet Success

Sophia Karalexis



the Pritzker Family Foundation, the Pritzker Taubert Foundation, LaSalle Bank, Chase Bank, Solomon Edwards Group, Jim and Kay Mabie and The Steans Family Foundation. "Without them I would not be here today, The Steans Family Foundation is who led the creation of the North Lawndale Employment Network seven years ago," said Palms Barber.

Terry Mazany of The Chicago Community Trust was also in attendance. "This is a great example of what the important work is that we have to focus on, it's about restoring people lives and rebuilding their connections to the community, creating hope and that's what Brenda and the North Lawndale Employment Network do, they create hope, which is their most essential product. The beeline product is great, but it doesn't even come close to what they really do for the community," said Mazany. "The Steans Family Foundation has been there

from day one. I think they are the reason the rest of us know and understand the challenges that North Lawndale is facing, they are the leaders. At The Community Trust I look to them for the lead, and I look to them to identify the major issues. They are able to partner with the trust and leverage with the trust, they have been at the leading edge, we come in right behind and help take things to a larger scale."

The North Lawndale Employment has a great deal of collaborative support from all across Chicago. The NLEN will continue to grow and serve the needs of the formerly incarcerated.

*Sophia Karalexis is a senior at DePaul University majoring in English with a minor in Journalism. Sophia came to NLCN as a member of Professor Ed Lawler's Community Journalism course at DePaul. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: nlc.org.*

On February 13., the North Lawndale Employment Network held its very first fundraiser. Sweet Beginnings is the innovative, transitional job initiative program at the North Lawndale Employment Network, that allows the formerly incarcerated to learn important job skills through bee keeping. These participants become urban farmers as well as retailers.

The NLEN has been recognized for its innovative job training programs and has set the example in the state of Illinois as to what re-entry programs should encompass. Participants in Sweet Beginnings learn the skills needed to create urban honey that allows for the production of products such as lip balms, body scrubs, facial scrubs and body bars. Much of the money raised by this fundraiser will assist in the expansion of Sweet Beginnings.

Such innovative enterprise captured the attention of the Boeing Company who now has a partnership with the NLEN. "The joy and dedication of all the people who are involved in this project was very, very impressive," said Anne Roosevelt, Acting Vice President of community and education relations at the Boeing Company.

The Boeing Company, being an important sponsor at the event, said that it was a privilege to be involved in a partnership that has such a big dream and goal in mind. An employment team from Boeing will work with the project to implement a business plan.

"This event is going to enable this project to significantly increase its output and to become a real product line with a year round marketing source. It's going to have class after class of individuals who will gain the knowledge of how to put together a life that gives them the kind of resources that they need to live as productive members of our community," said Roosevelt.

The guest speaker was Jennifer Henderson. She is a Chairman on the Board of Directors for Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream. She expressed interest in what the NLEN was doing and captured the attention of Brenda Palms Barber, the Executive Director of the NLEN. Henderson's qualifications include 20 years experience as a trainer, facilitator, and technical assistance provider in areas of strategic planning, executive coaching, organizational transformation, cultural diversity, community development, management assistance, and capacity building.

In the first year ten formerly incarcerated participated in the program and then seven in its second year. "We are not deeply impacting the 21,000 that are coming to North Lawndale, but we are certainly making a difference for those whom we are serving, but my dream and my real vision was to create lots of jobs in North Lawndale, lots of jobs for people who have been academically challenged and limited, who have made a decision to turn their lives around. When Jennifer started talking about her relationship with Ben and Jerry's; I thought that here is an opportunity to really grow this little boutique idea into a force to be reckoned with. She has availed herself to meet with us and help us here in Chicago to fill a vision and a need," said Balms Barber.

Others who made important contributions were

## ALABAMA'S BBQ (BIG AL'S BBQ) SINCE 1960

### BUCKET OF TIPS (3LB BUCKET)

\$14.00 +TAX

\* Hot Links

\* Perch

### BUCKET OF WINGS (20 WINGS)

\$13.25 +TAX

\* Chicken Wings

### SLAB OF RIBS

\* Catfish

\$14.00 +TAX

\* Chicken Gizzards

\* Chicken Livers

HOURS: 4:00PM TIL 2:00AM

1568 S. KEDZIE AVE.

PHONE: (773) 762-7427

CALL AHEAD FOR FASTER SERVICE

Entertainment & Sports

# What It Iz In The Biz

Marquita Ware

*To be or not to be? I have the answer to that question. It is an incomplete sentence.*

To all of my readers, I finally got a letter regarding some of the gossip that I lend out to all of your burning ears. The letter was sent from James Anderson, an inmate, who stated how appreciative they are of me giving them know the lowdown in the entertainment world. They also said they are grateful to NLCN, some being North Lawndalians, for keeping them updated on events happening in their community.

The male inmates at Logan Correctional Facility (yeah prison) really appreciate the fact that we are keeping them informed of their community, so that when they arrive back at home things are not that unusual for them.

They wanted me to seek information from our Congressman, Danny K. Davis, because they are having a little problem when they are released. Unfortunately, some of the inmates being released have no address to go to, and they are not made aware of housing and work release centers, so when they are released, and having no address, makes them violate their parole and get sent back to prison. I for one think it is unfair. We need these types of places in our neighborhoods if

we are trying to help former criminals turn their life around. I will research this problem and hopefully be able to help bring about informational solutions in the next few months.

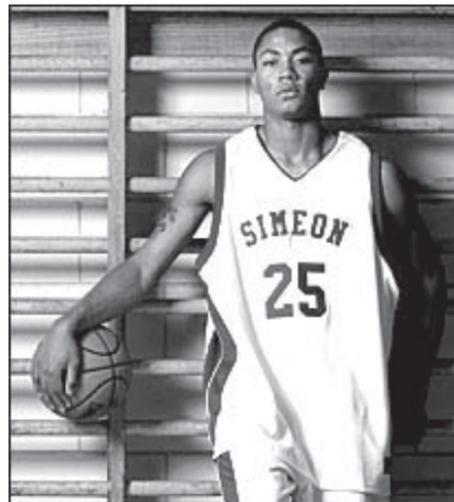
I think the inmates need to talk to Arne Duncan, because if he closes one more school, maybe it can be transformed into a work release/halfway house for inmates. To all the inmates at the Logan Correctional Facility, I want to say thanks for reading my article, and I really enjoyed your feedback. On a positive note, take my resolution into consideration about keeping it real. Make some changes in your life that will keep you on the right track. And James, stay off the Gold Coast. HA! HA!

Let me put you in the game! The Game is making his comeback with the release of his second album to hit the streets June 6. Dr. Dre, Kanye West, Timbaland and Just Blaze are heading the production duties. What No Fifty! He will also be in a new movie alongside Tyrese, Meagan Goode and Larenz Tate in the film *Waist Deep* in theaters April 28<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to the Game on all his success.

Sources: www.bet.com,

Marquita Ware is the Production/Layout Coordinator for the North Lawndale Community News. To comment on this article go to www.nlcn.org

# Simeon Wins Public League Championship



Simeon's Derrick Rose. Will he be the next Dee Brown?

Simeon rolled over Washington 55-40 to win the 2005/2006 public league championship title at the United Center Feb 25.

The Simeon Wolverines were led by sensational junior forward Derrick Rose who scored 25 points (11 for 13) shooting. Rose who is 1<sup>st</sup> team all-city also had eight assists, seven rebounds, three steals and three blocked shots. Junior forward/center Tim Flowers also played well for the Wolverines, playing a strong inside game to compliment Rose's

outside game.

Washington had great season, upsetting No. 1 ranked Marshall to get to the title game but they couldn't turn the game into the up-tempo style they prefer and Simeon wore them down.

The Class AA state championship tournament begins March 1 and several area teams will compete, including Westside schools: Crane and Marshall.

North Lawndale College Prep will also be in the Class A championship tournament as they have had an outstanding year with a 28-2 record.

# Congratulations Shani Davis Olympic Speedskating Champion

Todd Thomas

Shani Davis, a native of Chicago's south side rocketed to the top of the speedskating world by becoming the first African-American to win a gold medal in an individual event at a Winter Olympics. Davis won the 1,000 meter speed skating event for the gold, and then went on to win a silver medal in the 1,500 meter race.

Despite Davis' stellar performance he became the object of much derision from some of his Olympic teammates and the media. The subject of the controversy was Davis' decision to not skate in a pursuit team event and focus on his signature event, the 1,000 meters. U.S. skater Chad Hedrick was the most vocal critic as he labeled Davis as selfish for pursuing his individual goal of winning an Olympic gold in the 1,000 meter race.

'We had a great opportunity to win the team pursuit. I felt betrayed in a way,' Hedrick was quoted as saying about Davis. Davis shot back at Hedrick: 'Sure Chad and I are fighting for the same thing. But it would have been nice after I won the 1,000 if he would have been a good teammate and shook my hand.'

And on and on the bickering went. Many felt that racism was behind the criticism of Davis who is the only black skater on the U.S. team and one of the few black skaters in high level speedskating. He has been a loner in his quest to become a great skater and has never felt comfortable in the majority white world he occupies. He even said that he was "shunned" by teammates at other speedskating events. Maybe that was one of the reasons he pursued his own passion instead of using his much needed energy for the pursuit team event.

Either way, the 23-year-old Davis is not the 'rotten egg' he has been portrayed as. Davis has already given a lot back to his community by teaching youth about figure skating at the recreation center in Evanston,



Shani Davis with gold medal



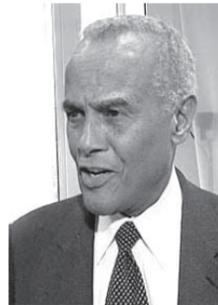
Speedskater Shani Davis

IL where he used to train. And after some of the tension from his war of words with Hedrick wore off he gave more welcoming media interviews, taking a step back from the terse interviews he had previously given.

Shani Davis is just getting started and has many more world championship and Olympic dreams to pursue - on his own terms.

Todd Thomas is a freelance writer for NLCN and other publications. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.

# Mar 1 Black Facts



Harry Belafonte

\* On this date in 1927, musician, actor, social activist Harry Belafonte was born in New York City, NY

\* On this date in 1933, Merlie Evers-Williams, widow of slain Civil Rights activist Medgar Evers and the first woman to head the NAACP was born.

\* On this date in 1875, Congress enacted a civil rights bill which gave blacks the right to equal treatment in inns, restaurants, theaters and other public places. The bill was overturned by the Supreme Court in 1883.

\* On this date in 1780, Pennsylvania became the first state to abolish slavery.

\* On this date in 1960, San Antonio, Texas became the first southern city to integrate lunch counters.

\* On this date in 1914, writer Ralph Ellison, author of the novel "The Invisible Man" was born.

# ON VIDEO

Compiled and Reviewed by David Schultz



Lady and the Tramp in Walt Disney Pictures Lady and the Tramp

**Walt Disney's LADY AND THE TRAMP (\*\*\*\*)** Another Disney delightful animated classic about the street dog helps an upper class pooch to learn to enjoy the common pleasure of life, while proving the pooch's innocence toward the humans couple's newborn baby. The restoration treatment accents the sounds and style of this turn of the century tale along with the marvelous songs and characters. G; 78min. Walt Disney Home Video

**THE SQUID AND THE WHALE (\*\*\*)** A blistering human portrait on the effects of divorce between two brothers who find themselves torn between the two strong willed literary

parents. Strong performances abound are led by Jeff Daniels as the overbearing patriarch who dukes it out with wife, Laura Linney. A film that

families should watch and learn together from this thinly fictionalized autobiographical experience from writer-director Noah Baumbach. About people with good intentions who act badly and the after effects on their kids. PG; 85min. Sony Pictures Home Video

**Coming Soon:** Steve martin in "Shopgirl" (April 25); Health Ledger in "Casanova" (April 25); "The Little Mermaid: Special Edition" (Oct. 3); "Hostel" (April 18); Jim Carrey in "Fun with Dick and Jane" (April 11).

David Schultz is film critic for NLCN and other publications. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.

# At The Flicks

David Schultz



Bruce Willis and Mos Def in 16 Blocks

**16 BLOCKS (\*\*)** Although the film's plot defies credibility, "Lethal Weapon" director Richard Donner returns to the action detective genre with Bruce Willis portraying a burnt-out, alcoholic, veteran cop with a bum leg from a previous on-duty injury. His commander drafts him to escort a seemingly petty thief, Eddie Bunker (Mos Def) from the precinct to the courtroom...just 16 blocks away.

As it turns out, this petty thief's testimony at the courtroom included important evidence in a case in which Eddie witnessed a crooked cop murdering an innocent old man. His testimony could ruin the lives of many cops at the precinct, especially a small renegade, law breaking group of cops led by Nugent

who is trying to keep Eddie from reaching that 10:00 am appointment.

So begins the race against the clock through shoot-outs, car chases, crowded New York sidewalks and strangers' apartments.

"16 Blocks" is a film that borrows elements and behavior we have seen before in similar characters and story lines. The film comes off like a rehash of Willis doing a slightly different variation of his "Die Hard" character in a scaled down, perilous situation. There is the action with some moments of intensity, but everything put out there between the characters and situations don't necessarily ring true. This makes us feel unfulfilled by its conclusion.

R; 97min. A Warner Bros. Pictures Release - Opens Fri. March 3 at selected theaters

**DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (\*\*\*)** Over a year earlier, comic Dave Chappelle walked away from his successful cable TV skit series for Comedy Central and a \$50 million contract deal to seek sanctuary in Africa, recovering from the

pressures and demands of the business.

Dave Chappelle wanted to give something back to the "community". He chose to do so by filming an outdoor concert on the streets of Bed-Stuy, the poverty area of Brooklyn N.Y.

A diverse, ethnic area that Chappelle described in contrast and looks as being "The Cosby Show" before the commercial, and "Good Times" after the commercial".

Filmed in September 2004, "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" director Michel Gondry interweaves the concert footage slowly within its ringleader Chappelle's Candid Camera" type encounters that begins with the resident hometown folks of Dayton, Ohio, three days before the event.

Chappelle hands out golden tickets to attend his bash (without any corporate name sponsors) on skeptic whites to street teens and the entire Central State University band with varied responses.

Held together by Chappelle's amusing



Kanye West in Dave Chappelle's Block party

jabs and social comments, the film features an eclectic list of neo-soul, hip-hop and jazz fusion artists that jumps off with Kanye West who is supported on stage with a then-unknown John Legend as backup vocalist.

The film offers several unique musical highlights that include Lauryn Hill reuniting on stage with The Fugees and Wyclean Jean and 'Old School' hip-hop appearances by Big Daddy Kane joining in with The Roots; Erykah Badu joined in a duet by Jill Scott.

See Flicks page 14

## 2005 OSCAR PREDICTIONS

David Schultz

On Sunday, March 5, the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards could be one for the history books. This is reflected by its nominations led by eight from the gay cowboy love story, "Brokeback Mountain" versus the racially charged ensemble drama, "Crash". Both films have received rotating numerous award honors leading up to this moment.

In a year that has nominated an array of strong performances. The one to watch is the one that offers the least chance for a Black win. The Oscar chance for Terrence Howard, who has already achieved a personal best in three films last year led by his Oscar nominated role in "Hustle and Flow".

Now, Howard seems the least likely to win over the chances between fellow Best Actor nominees, Phillip Seymour Hoffman for "Capote" and Joaquin Phoenix for "Walk the Line". So, I am sorry to say that Chicago-born Howard will have to settle for the nomination. Unlike the year, Denzel Washington won for "Training Day"; the competition and performances weren't that strong as what Howard has to contend with.

Another possible close race to call is in the best actress catalogue between Felicia Huffman for "Transamerica" and Reese Witherspoon for "Walk the Line". The hardest Oscar race to predict might be the Best Supporting Actress that could offer one of the evening's big surprise winners.

Still, a bigger surprise is that among the best song nominees is a hip hop song, "Its Hard Out Here for a Pimp" from the movie, "Hustle and Flow". But I think the conventional sector of the Academy voters are not that progressive and will settle for either "In The Deep" from "Crash" or "Travelin' Thru" from "Transamerica".

However, this catalogue offers probably the least memorable tunes in recent memory that have been nominated. Which isn't the usual customary five in the selected, a rather poor showing for original song tunes for movies last year.

But it was another strong year for documentaries: which is a three way Oscar race which I think could go either way between "March of the Penguins" and "Murderball" beating out "Enron: The

Smartest Guys In The Room"

The one prediction of black interest I have is in the Best Foreign Language Film nominations. I think the best chance belongs to. "Tsotsi", a movie from South Africa (which opens in Chicago Fri. March 10) about ghetto life in Johannesburg. The film chronicles six days in the life of young black gang leader who carjacks a vehicle that has the woman driver's baby in the back seat. This film strongest threat could be "Paradise Now".

One thing for sure, this year's Academy award will be anything but conventional by its choices and winners. Of course there is politics versus talent that offers different reasons for certain winners that will occur that night.

This is why I decided to offer my predictions in two forms: What I "expect" the Academy to reward over what should have been the preferred choice based on talent and content. So if you like to handicap the Oscar race like it were a horse race. Check out my predictions with your own and then compare after the telecast.

BEST PICTURE

Academy's choice: "Crash"

David's choice: "Brokeback Mountain"

BEST DIRECTOR

Academy's choice: Ang Lee for "Brokeback Mountain"

David's choice: Ang Lee for Brokeback Mountain"

BEST ACTOR

Academy's choice: Phillip Seymour Hoffman for "Capote"

David's choice: Joaquin Phoenix for Walk the Line":

BEST ACTRESS

Academy's choice: Reese Witherspoon for "Walk the Line"

David's choice: Felicia Huffman for "Transamerica"

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Academy's choice: George Clooney for "Syriana"

David's choice: "Matt Dillon for "Crash"

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Academy's choice: Amy Adams for "Junebug"

See Oscar page 14

**PINE GRILL**

1201 S. Western Ave. Chicago, IL 60608  
(312) 738-2320 - 6am-3pm

**Breakfast (All Day)**

All breakfasts include hashbrowns, rice or grits and toast with butter and jelly

**Two eggs with ham, bacon or sausage \$3.50**

**Sandwiches from \$1.55 - \$4.25**

**Dinners - \$5.10**

All dinners include mashed potatoes, vegetable and bread with butter

**Roast Beef \* Meatloaf \* Smoked Butt**

**Veal Cutlet \* Perch \* Chopped Steak**

**Corned Beef**

**Ribeye Steak Dinner - \$5.75**

**GOOD FOOD - QUICK SERVICE**

**THE BEST PRICES IN THE CITY**

**B'S AFRICAN HAIR BRAIDING**

**GRAND OPENING**

**SPECIAL MICRO BRAIDS & KINKY BRAIDS**

**BRAIDERS ON DUTY**

MICRO BRAIDS FROM \$180 & UP BOB STYLE FROM \$150 CORN ROLLS \$50.00 & UP KINKY TWIST \$180.00

APPOINTMENTS & WALK-INS WELCOME OPEN 7 DAYS/WK 8:00AM - 6:00PM

5620 W. Division - Central & Parkside  
(773) 626-9007

773-626-9007

### NAACP from front page

what they stand for and hold politicians accountable," said Davis. "The civil rights organization hosts such forums every election cycle and will also hold political education classes," she added. For Davis, the Feb. 18 forum was an opportunity for candidates to talk plainly about the function of each office, whether water reclamation commissioner or state senator, their qualifications and their platform.

Candidates were cordial for the most part, with the exception of a slight tiff between candidates for Cook County Sheriff. One candidate opposing incumbent Rep. Danny L. Davis, 7<sup>th</sup> District lauded the congressman for his work, but urged the popular Democrat to "pass the baton" and take a less hectic post - maybe as an ambassador for an African Country.

Candidates were also asked pointed questions.

Carol Howard, running to become a judge on the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial Sub circuit, conceded criminals

See page 15

**"A true witness delivereth souls; but a deceitful witness speaketh lies." - Proverbs 14:15**

**Oscar from page 13**

David's Choice: Rachel Weisz for "The Constant Gardener"  
**BEST ANIMATED FEATURE**  
 Academy's Choice: "Wallace and Gromit in the Curse of the Were-Rabbit"  
 David's choice: "Wallace and Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit"  
**BEST FOREIGN FILM**  
 Academy's Choice: "Tsotsi" (South Africa)  
 David's Choice: "Tsotsi" (South Africa)  
**BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE**  
 Academy's choice: "March of the Penguins"  
 David's choice: "Murderball"  
**BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY**  
 Academy's choice: "The New World"  
 David's Choice: "Brokeback Mountain"  
**BEST MUSIC SCORE**  
 Academy's choice: "Memoirs of a Geisha"  
 David's Choice: "Brokeback Mountain"  
**BEST FILM EDITING**  
 Academy's choice: "Walk the Line"  
 David's choice: "Crash"  
**BEST SOUND EDITING**  
 Academy's Choice: "War of the Worlds"  
 David's Choice: "King Kong"  
**BEST ORIGINAL SONG FOR A MOTION PICTURE**  
 Academy's choice: "Travelin' Thru" from "Transamerica"  
 David's choice: "It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp" from "Hustle and Flow"  
**BEST VISUAL EFFECTS**  
 Academy's choice: "War of the Worlds"  
 David's choice: "King Kong"  
**BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY**  
 Academy's choice: "Brokeback Mountain"  
 David's Choice: "Brokeback Mountain"  
**BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY**  
 Academy's choice: "Crash"  
 David's choice: "Crash"  
*David Schultz is film critic for NLCN and other publications. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.*

**Flicks from page 13**

"Block Party" is a musical event with a purpose, not unlike those concert movies of the 70's, "Wattstax" and "Soul to Soul". This is a musical documentary that reflects a cultural celebration through its diverse music and amusing observations that may not achieve all of its objectives. But the movie does seem to preserve a sense of progress.

R; 109min. A Rogue Pictures release - Opens Fri. March 3 at selected theaters  
**FAILURE TO LAUNCH (\*\*1/2)**

"Failure to Launch" is a cute and amusing movie, because the performers seems to really enjoy their acting roles. And if you are starved enough for a light romantic comedy, this movie may prove an amusing appetizer, in which the characters and situations represent sort of the flip side of "Hitch".

Sarah Jessica Parker's character, Paula, is a love specialist-for-hire like Will Smith's character "Hitch." Parker portrays Paula, a professional interceptor hired to fall in love and assume a relationship with Matthew McConaughey's character, Tripp, a 30-some man who still lives at home with his parents, wonderfully played by Kathy Bates and Terry Bradshaw. They hire Paula to entice their grown son to move out of their house.

Through the course of socializing through a paint ball battle, boat rides, and lunches, and an animal hospital visit, Paula analyzes Tripp with her kid sister, Kit (Zoey Deschanel). Eventually, Tripp falls into a common relationship trap; he brings Paula home to his parent-shared house.

With "Failure to Launch" you will like the characters better than what they do to each other. It is not a bad comedy, but it just doesn't put its "fun" in the right place part of the time.

PG-13; 92min. A Paramount Pictures Release - Opens Fri. March 10 at selected theater

**MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (\*\*)**

"Madea's Family Reunion" clearly serves to the audience intended and depicted through this uneven hodgepodge mixture of soap opera vignettes, low brow ghetto humor and spiritual doctrine.

The story has the outspoken patriarch played in drag by Perry in one of three roles, preparing for a family reunion in celebration of a grandmother's 96th birthday. He also plays

the tough-love foster parent of a troublesome child (Keke Palmer) who allows peer pressure to interfere with her school education.

The heavy drama nearly becomes this movie's "Achilles heel" for Perry who wrote the script and makes his directorial debut here. Perry alters his screen time from the comedy to the sudsy and familiar "soap opera" type trappings that nearly stales the entire movie.

"Family Reunion" can't rise above its material and the remarks of social concern for black unity and respect falls upon the elders to the younger generations by Cicely Tyson and Maya Angelou, who provide the film with pedigree while wasting their talents.

This is not to say that this is a bad movie or a badly made movie, just that "Madea's Family Reunion" should have been better than it was. It's portrayal of black life in domestic situations seems only to scratch the surface of what we already know about the characters and their plight.

This movie fails to make the most of the opportunity it has to break new ground for black-oriented films within the familiar and predictable (right down to using overused 70's hits like O Jays' "Family Reunion", Al Green's "Love and Happiness" and of course, Sister Sledge's "We Are Family") aspects offered here.

PG-13; 107min. A Lions Gate Film Release - Presented at selected theaters

**FREEDOMLAND (\*\*1/2)** An ambitious social drama thriller that tries to explore police procedure and racial tension over a missing child from a carjacking incident that occurred near a predominantly poor, black housing area known as Armstrong House that is adjacent to Gannon, a white blue collar suburb in New Jersey. Based on Richard Price's bestseller, the film is watered down but has its pivotal moments. It does not, however, have the depth or bite that was achieved for director Spike Lee in "Clockers".

Still, this movie is elevated by the strong performances led by Julianne Moore as Brenda Martin, a bedraggled woman who social works in the ghetto area's day care center; who one night wanders into a hospital with bloodied palms and claims to have been carjacked at the nearby housing projects

Samuel L. Jackson portrays the veteran street cop, Lorenzo Council, who finds

himself caught in the middle trying to keep the black and white furor from boiling over between the black residents led by an activist-type pastor (Clark Peters from HBO's "The Wire") who is outraged by the media and police attention over the carjacking case when crimes against black youths go unnoticed.

However, the film seems to have been written in shorthand, merely skimming important aspects from the book. Still, there is enough interest from the story and intrigue from the performances of Jackson and Moore to sustain this movie.

R; 112min. A Revolution Studios Picture Released thru Columbia Pictures

**Presented at selected theaters**

**THE LIBERTINE (\*\*)** Johnny Depp delivers a devastating performance in this 17th century period piece about the self-destructive Earl of Rochester, John Wilmot, a real-life figure who died in 1680 at age 33 from his years of heavy drinking, sexual exploits and syphilis and was notorious for his debauchery.

Known as a poet with witty repartee, Wilmot is summoned back to London from his countryside exile in Oxfordshire by King Charles II (John Malkovich) who wants written documentation by Wilmot to validate his liberal reign, which prohibits theaters and other forms of entertainment after the Puritan shutdown.

When Wilmot attends the theatre and witnesses the bad performance of a stage actress, Elizabeth Berry (Samantha Morton), he makes a bet with his friends that he can teach and improve her acting skills. Thereafter in between their stage sessions, Wilmot begins to apply his whoring ways with Elizabeth. While revolves into a passionate love affair as his mistress that seems to come too late in Wilmot's life.

"The Libertine" doesn't leave much room for emotions for these characters. And there is no redeeming quality to Wilmot when he finally delivers a speech in the House of Lords on King Charles II's behalf that meets his acceptance. It is all too little, too late for this sordid and sad movie that travels from debauchery to boredom.

R; 114min. A Weinstein Company Picture Release - Opens Fri. March 10 at selected theaters

*David Schultz is film critic for NLCN and other publications. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcn.org.*



**FORD DESIRED**  
REAL ESTATE INC.

**321 N Cicero, Chicago, IL 60644**  
773.379.1111  
www.forddesired.com  
eric.stith@forddesired.com  
Eric J. Stith, Managing Broker 773.443.HOME (4663)



March Your WHOLE Family into this large 4+ Bedroom Single Family Home Loaded with master ceramic tiled Bath/Shower, Den could be 5th Bedroom, Ceiling Fans Throughout, Multiple Ample Closets + Storage Space in Bedrooms, Master Wood 18' x 6' 2nd floor private deck, LR/DR combo huge with vertical blinds, Stove Refrigerator, 2 Window Air Conditioners, rod iron front Wood Rear fence



Two Spacious 4 Bedroom units in this Double Duplex up & down, totally Newly Renovated, Near The L, Spiral Staircase on 2nd Fl, Ceiling Fans Throughout, Jacuzzi Whirlpool on Top, Brand New Carpeting & Varnished Hardwood Floors, Minutes from the Loop, Washer & Dryer Hooks, and Security System on the top floor, 2 Baths on the 1st Floor--Just West of the Ryan



2 Family Income Unit at the Expressway & US Cellular Single Family Brick House For Sale & Priced at \$190,000  
 BRICK BUNGALOW. ROOF only 4-5 years old, READY TO MOVE IN CONDITION, FRESHLY RENOVATED & PAINTED + EASY TO SHOW. NEWLY REHABBED HOME CERAMIC TILE, NICELY FENCED HUGE REAR PLAY YARD WITH SPACE FOR GARAGE, OR PARKING ON PAD, PARTIALLY FIN BASEMENT, ROD IRON FENCE IN FRONT YARD, 1-1/2 BATHS, NEW WINDOWS THROUGHOUT, CARPETING, CIRCUIT BREAKERS, GLASS BLOCK BASEMENT WINDOWS

# YOUTH JOB FAIR

**When:** Early April, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
 To obtain the actual date of job fair Youth must attend the Job Preparation Meeting on March 28, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. as a prerequisite to attend the April Job Fair  
**Who:** Youth between the ages of 16-19 years of age that are ready for employment  
**Where:** Multipurpose room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Juvenile Court Building, northeast corner of Odgen and Roosevelt Avenue  
**Please R.S.V.P. by Thursday, March 16th, We need your name, address, telephone, and age**  
**Partners for the event: Cook County Juvenile Probation Department, the North Lawndale Community News and Employ America,**

**INVITED EMPLOYERS**

- 1. Douglass Park)
- 2. Homan Square Theater
- 3. Enterprise Car Rental
- 4. Toys R Us
- 5. Office Max
- 6. Marshall Clothes Store
- 7. Best Buy 630 701-4589(
- 8. Subway 1 800 888-4848
- 9. Factory Card Outlet
- 10. Pepsi
- 11. Wendy's
- 12. Chicago Public Library
- 13. Shedd Aquarium
- 14. Field Museum
- 15. Woman's National Basketball Association\
- 16. Turano Bread Co.

- 17. Ford Realty
- 18. Walgreen's
- 19. Footaction shoes
- 20. Save A lot foods
- 21. Chicago Police Department
- 22. Museum Science and Industry
- 23. FedEx Ground
- 24. Lowe's
- 25. Target
- 26. Hollywood Video
- 27. Wal-Mart 708 409-0049 Roni Personnel
- 28. Cubs
- 29. Kentucky Fried Chicken/Pizza Hut
- 30. White Castles
- 31. Auto Zone?
- 32. Sears
- 33. Black Board of Realtors
- 34. State Farm Insurance




**If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Job Fair, please contact The North Lawndale Community News at 312 492-9090, Irvin Ashford at 312-433-6512 or ask for Anthony Grady at 312 443-6604,**

FREE CLASSIFIED AD WITH A DISPLAY AD OF 1/8 PAGE OR LARGER.

THE NORTH LAWDALE COMMUNITY NEWS'

CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO BUY, SELL, TRADE, RENT OR ANNOUNCE? DO YOU WANT TO BUY OR SELL A CAR? ARE YOU LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT OR LOOKING TO HIRE? YOU CAN BUY, SELL, RENT, HIRE OR TRADE WITH RESIDENTS OF NORTH LAWDALE, AUSTIN, GARFIELD, PILSEN AND THE MIDWEST COMMUNITIES. JUST CALL AND ADVERTISE IN THE NORTH LAWDALE COMMUNITY NEWS' CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE.

CALL 312/492-9090 TO PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD!

APARTMENTS



**APTS FOR RENT** - 2,3,4 bdrms. Newly rehabbed, Laundry rooms, Pastel colors, Sect. 8 welcome. Sep. utilities. Call Dawn 708/299-2461

**7 RM APT, 4 BDRMS**, 1 1/2 baths, newly decorated, carpeting and hardwood flrs, & air conditioning. A must see to appreciate. Near CTA, El, bus stop at the door. Near schools and parks. Utilities & heat not included, \$1000 + sec. 1st month rent FREE. Call 773/620-0082

**APTS FOR RENT** - 2 + 3 bdrm apts available. Newly remodeled. 4200 W 21<sup>st</sup> Place. Walking distance to the blue line. Utilities not included. \$875/\$975 mo. Sec 8 welcome. Please call 773/895-2042.

**CONDO FOR RENT** - 2 bdrm, 2 bath, with jacuzzi. 3 minutes from Loop. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer, fridge, stove, dishwasher. Central air/heat. Ceiling fans. Secure parking. Contact Jay Cambry Realty at 312/617-2826.

**2 APTS FOR RENT** - 3 bdrm. East Garfield area. 343 S. Trumbull. Across from Bethany Hospital. 1 bath, back porch deck, secure parking, laundry room. Tenant pays utilities. Call Ms. Johnson at (773) 575-7455.

**APT FOR RENT** - 3 bdrm available. N. Lawndale area. Tenant pays util. \$1050. Enclosed back porch. Central heat and air. Sec. 8 welcome. Parking available. Call (312) 371-1960.

Great Apartments! Great Prices!

SECURITY DEPOSIT !!! PAYMENT PROGRAMS !!!



\*\*Most landlords will consider with good credit and/or background check

Please call, stop by or E-MAIL

HISTORICRENTAL@YAHOO.COM

for a full list of area apartments

**Historic Realty**  
2341 W. Taylor St.  
312-243-4033

OFFICE SPACE

2 OFFICE SPACES FOR RENT - 3708 W. Roosevelt Rd. \$350-\$450. Month to month leases. Please call 773/638-1700

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED EXPERIENCED TELEMARKETERS Sales experience a plus. Salary plus commission. Fax resume to (312) 421- 8909 or email supremeloans@msn.com

COMPUTER SYSTEM

Complete Computer System including: Computer, Monitor, Keyboard, Mouse, Internet Ready and in Good Condition.

**\$ 100**

Please Call (708)460-6035. Orland Park, IL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FAREWELL TO ROCKWELL GARDENS** - The future holds the past life but letting it go is part of growth, so to a young man and woman, love your fellow man and woman. Keep your family together. May peace be with you all in the new West End Apartments. Joann Smith Scott, Rockwell resident from 1966-1977.

COMPUTER BLUE?

Give SYSTEMGEEK a call! We'll make it SING!



- Do you experience?
- crashing
  - slowness
  - noisy fans
  - Limited disk space
  - Shut downs
  - other problems

All types of computer repair!

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Hardware      | Internet Setup  |
| Software      | Spyware Removal |
| Case Cleaning | Virus Removal   |

24 hours a day / 7 days a week

**SYSTEMGEEK INC.**  
(773) 920-1221  
help@systemgeek.com

NAACP from page 13

need to be taken off city streets. But, she stressed, the right people need to be arrested and prosecuted, not just anyone available. Howard is a veteran attorney and a former Cook County Public Defender. Judges were asked about how they would handle allegations of police brutality and ensure fair trials.

Candidates for Water Reclamation Commission, with its budget of nearly \$1 billion talked about contracting and fair hiring as those running for a State Senate talked about the problems of predatory payday loans, and the need to allow ex-offenders to re-enter the community easier. Karen Yarbrough, an incumbent, suggested that as expunging of criminal records and other solutions are considered, ex-offenders also are encouraged to become entrepreneurs.

Sheriff candidates commented on the recent rash of escapes and problems at Cook County Jail. "If someone watching the guard, the guards will have to do their jobs," said Marshall P. Lewis, a write-in candidate for sheriff. Lewis, a deputy sergeant with the department for nearly 25 years, also said more programming is needed to help inmates progress and combat recidivism.

Those hoping to become Cook County Board president were

questioned about cutbacks in care at Advocate Bethany Hospital on the West Side. Tony Peraica, a Republican, argued that with tax breaks and perks like free water, Advocate had responsibility to provide care on the West side, and not just long term care.

"Cook County government increasingly is not serving people who need our help," said Forrest Claypool, a Democratic candidate for Cook County board president. A current county board member, Claypool blasted current President John Stroger for patronage jobs and mismanagement. The failure of the county health care system to serve people well and in a speedy manner is an example of Stroger's failures, he said. Claypool also named health care as his number one area of concern.

Cook County Commissioner Earleen Collins, sitting in for Stroger, admitted reform of Cook County government was needed. The problem is that the federal government and the state have relinquished their responsibilities in important and costly areas, like health care. It's "not that the leadership is bad, but because of what is happening in the community and lack of resources to deal with that problem," said Collins, who also sits on the county board. Stroger has committed to that restructuring and should stay on the job, she said.

Democrat Edwin Eisendrath's charges of corruption and pay for play against Gov. Rod Blagojevich went unchallenged because the governor wasn't there and had no representative. Eisendrath laid out education, jobs and honesty as his major campaign themes.

Democrats Jim Ascot, Robert Dallas and Rep. Davis shared the panel as candidates for the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and were pretty cordial. All agreed that the federal government needed to focus at home as opposed to military excursions abroad. Dallas brought laughter from the crowd and a smile to Rep. Davis's face with his suggestion that the congressman step aside and play the role of advisor. Though Davis smiled it was clear that he wasn't quite ready to step off of the political stage. The primary election is scheduled for March 21, 2006.

Richard Muhammad is contributing writer for the North Lawndale Community News. To comment on this article visit our weblog at: www.nlcen.org.

773-521-0077

Smile, God Loves YOU

Mobile Five's Livery  
16th & Pulaski

Dispatchers and Driver Wanted  
Call Trooper @ 773-544-5162

773-521-0089

773-521-0078

773-521-0096

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE

ERIC J. LINDSAY AGENCY

3708 WEST ROOSEVELT ROAD  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60624

Office: 773-638-1700  
Fax: 773-638-1718  
E-Mail: elindsay@amfam.com  
24-Hour Claims Reporting: 800-374-1111




COMMUNITY EVENTS

17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CAREER EXPO & HEALTH FAIR  
Wednesday, March 08, 2006

10:00am to 1:00pm at Malcolm X College located at 1900 W. Van Buren Chicago Il, 60612 for more information contact- Workforce Development Center at: (312)- 850-7087 Memo: Bring Plenty of Resumes and Dress for success

DANNY K. DAVIS WOULD LIKE TO INVITE TO A RECEPTION AND FUNDRAISER IN HIS HONOR on Saturday, March 4, 2006 6:00 p.m. at N'DIGO Magapaper 19 N. Sangamon donations are \$ 100.00 . There will be refreshments and beverages served for more information contact Tumia Romero at 773-638-1998 or tumiaromero@dannykdavis.com

6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WOMENS BAZAAR

A COMMEMORATION OF WOMEN'S HISTORY "CELEBRATING WOMEN FROM AROUND THE WORLD" the event will take place Friday March 31, 2006 at Homan Square located at 3559 W. Arthington ~1<sup>st</sup> Level at 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.

EXPO FOR TODAY'S BLACK WOMEN will held on march March 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> at the McCormick Place..... "Be There"



# LAWDALE CHRISTIAN HEALTH CENTER

Loving God, Loving People

LCHC Ogden: 3860 W. Ogden Ave.  
 Appointments: 773.843.3001

LCHC Homan Square: 3517 W. Arthington St.  
 Appointments: 773.843.3002

LCHC Farragut: 2345 S. Christiana Ave.  
 Appointments: 773.843.3003

Call for an appointment: 773.843.3000

- Same or next day appointments
- Healthcare for infants, children, adults and elderly
- Sliding scale fee for patients without insurance
- Private Insurance, Medicaid, Medicare and HMOs accepted
- Over 40 providers with 24-hour on-call service.



Hours:  
 Monday - Friday 6am-9pm  
 Saturday 7am-5pm

773.843.3219

- No joiner fees
- No long-term commitments
- Daily and monthly rates
- Full basketball court
- Aerobic and strength classes

## INTERSTATE

**Muffler & Automotive Repair**  
 2158 South Pulaski  
 (corner of Cermak & Pulaski)  
 Chicago  
 773-522-0122

4 Locations to Serve You!  
 Ogden & Western 312-733-5333

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Diagnostic Testing</b><br>\$39.99                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>OIL CHANGE, FILTER, TOP OF THE FLUIDS &amp; ENGINE FLUSH</b><br>\$39.99                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Radiator Flush</b><br>\$39.99                                      |
| <b>Struts</b><br>Front or Rear Installed<br>\$199.00<br>MOST CARS & LIGHT TRUCKS                                                                                                                                  | <b>Mufflers</b><br>\$19.99<br>Inspect exhaust system for leaks. Labor Extra.<br>MOST CARS & LIGHT TRUCKS                                                                                                                                  | <b>Converter</b><br>INSTALLED<br>\$119.99<br>MOST CARS & LIGHT TRUCKS |
| <b>Full Tune-Up Service</b><br>4 cyl. \$159.00<br>6cyl. \$179.00<br>8cyl. \$199.00<br>Includes plugs, wires, fuel filter, air filter, P.C.V. valve cap, rotor, oil change and filter.<br>MOST CARS & LIGHT TRUCKS | <b>Front or Rear Brakes Service</b><br>\$59.99<br>Front or Rear<br>Includes installation of front pads, inspect inspect rotors, wheelbearing, calipers, hydraulic system and road test. Pads and shoes extra.<br>MOST CARS & LIGHT TRUCKS |                                                                       |

Serving All of Chicago & Suburbs  
 ILLINOIS Licensed

**BRYANT-LOGAN REALTY, LTD**

5913 W. Madison St.  
 Chicago, IL 60644  
 Phone: (773) 786-0212  
 Fax: (773) 786-0221  
 mailbryantloganre@sbcglobal.net

"BUILDING COMMUNITIES ONE HOMEOWNER AT A TIME"

## OPEN HOUSE

THE NEW BEGINNING COLLECTION

718 W. 129<sup>TH</sup> PLACE  
 CHICAGO, IL 60628

SUNDAY, MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup>  
 NOON UNTIL 2PM

**FEATURES AND FACTS**

- \* Built in 2006
- \* Brick facing
- \* Aluminum/Vinyl/Steel Siding
- \* Concrete foundation
- \* Vaulted ceiling N MB
- \* Open dining area
- \* Ample closet space
- \* Pull down attic for storage
- \* Aluminum gutters
- \* Fiberglass shingles
- \* Central heating
- \* Central air
- \* Refrigerator, stove and microwave
- \* Municipal water/sewer
- \* Energy-efficient electric water heater
- \* Deadbolts on all entrances
- \* Patio doors off kitchen
- \* Large master bedroom suite
  - \* Backyard
  - \* 3 bedrooms
  - \* 2 full baths
- \* Full unfinished basement

**ROOM SIZES**

- \* Living room /Dining room - combination 25' x 13"
- \* Kitchen - 18" x 12"
- \* Master bedroom - 17" x 12"
- \* Bedroom - 12" x 10"
- \* Bedroom - 15" x 12"
- Total = 1584 sq. feet

**COSTS**

- \* Asking price: \$219,000
- \* Property taxes: NEW
- \* Many upgrades to choose from; 2- Car garage, Fireplace, granite countertop and a finished basement.